

LONDON, SATURDAY, AUGUST 20, 1864.

THE GRAND LODGE PROPERTY.

We had hoped that at least for some months we should be excused from writing on this subject, but we have received a letter from Bro. Havers which cannot be altogether passed without notice.

Our respected brother confirms what we stated from the first, that under no circumstances can the Freemasons' Hall and buildings proper be leased to any parties, either in an individual or corporate capacity; but that the Tavern is to be a thoroughly distinct establishment, over which the Craft will have no further control than that of lessees. Bro. Havers gives a distinct approval of the new company, which we doubt not will have its weight with the Craft, whilst we cannot otherwise than approve the decision which the committee has come to of abstaining from becoming shareholders; for had they done so, it must have created some dissatisfaction with regard to any arrangement entered into with the Tavern Company.

We understand that, up to the present moment, of the 6,500 shares to be subscribed for, applications have been received for upwards of 4,000, and that without any regard to the directors or their friends, whose applications are yet to come in, and which, if only equal to one-half of what is promised, will more than cover the whole amount.

We subjoin Bro. Havers' letter:

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE AND MASONIC MIRROR.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—So many inquiries have been made of me, both verbally and otherwise, on the subject of the New Buildings, and of the proposed Company, that I think it better to ask your permission to reply to them generally.

I. The new "Freemasons' Hall" and the Tavern, which will adjoin it, will be separate and distinct.

The former will contain the present great hall, board-rooms, lodge-rooms, offices for the Grand Secretary and his clerks, offices for the Charities, Grand Masters' and Grand Officers' rooms, library, coffee-room, waiting-rooms, Grand Tyler's apartments, &c. This part of the building will possess a handsome *façade* of Portland stone, and will be devoted solely and exclusively to the use of the fraternity.

The Tavern will contain all the recommendations necessary for carrying on a first-class business, including (besides dining-rooms of ordinary dimensions) a new great hall, larger and more commodious than the present one, and two subsidiary dining-rooms of large dimensions, with suitable approaches and ante-rooms, &c; the suite of apartments which can be thrown open will, I believe, be unequalled in any similar establishment in London.

II. The contemplated lease to the company refers to the Tavern only.

III. Neither I, nor any member of the committee, as far as I know, I believe, have, or propose to have, any share or interest in the new company, and for the sole but sufficient reason that, as representing the interests

of Grand Lodge, we could not be in the position of being both buyers and sellers.

IV. Were I not so debarred I should willingly become a shareholder in the company.

V. I think that the company has every prospect of a great success, and is a good and legitimate thing for the brethren to take up. Its promoters have agreed to give us a liberal rent, but there is ample margin for the shareholders to make a large profit.

VI. The risk appears to me to be slight. This company is unlike other companies formed for similar purposes—inasmuch as it is not required to lay out one shilling of its capital in land, bricks, or mortar, the society completing at its own cost the whole of the building; and it has not got to make a business, but has a really good business ready made to its hand, which a moderate capital and good management cannot fail to increase immensely.

Lastly. The *façade* and rooms forming the front of the new building have not been commenced, because it is necessary to carry on the work in sections for the convenience of the Craft, and to avoid interfering with the business of our tenants. Before we can take away the old lodge-rooms and the executive offices, we must have the new ones ready. These latter are now being roofed in, will be finished in December, and will, I trust, be occupied early in the new year.

We are breaking through into the vestibule of the present great hall in order to form the staircase, and (Masonic) approach to the present and future great halls, and we are doing it now because such new means of access will shortly be necessary, because the present slack time of year suits best the convenience of our tenants, and because by getting all the interior work finished and ready for occupation, we shall occasion the least inconvenience, and we shall be able to carry up the whole *façade* at once.

There must, of course, be some inconvenience to all parties, and chiefly in the means of access, till the work is completed. I am sure that our brethren will put up with the inconvenience good-naturedly, and I can assure them, on behalf of the committee, that we will spare no pains to make it felt as little as possible.

Yours fraternally,

Aug. 16, 1864.

JOHN HAVERS.

LE MONDE MACONNIQUE AND THE FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE.

Our French contemporary once more takes us to task for the manner in which our MAGAZINE is conducted—founding its observations on the preface to our last volume, which is, in fact, a *resume* of the events of the previous six months. In the first place we are blamed for devoting too much of that two-paged address to the matters of the outer world, and too little to matters purely Masonic, especially the "intellectual movement of Masonry in all parts of the world." Alas! where are we to find them? Certainly not in English lodges—assuredly not in the pages of *Le Monde Maçonique*.

We are told that the English brethren "see with regret that Masonry does not possess a more earnest organ in England" than the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE. We regret if it is not as earnest and

as useful as it should be, but if so the fault rests more with the brethren than with us—ninety hundredths of them knowing but little and caring still less for Masonic literature, or, in fact, anything passing beyond the limits of their own lodges.

Next, we have a piece of news, viz., that Bro. Warren has ceased all connection with the *MAGAZINE*, which is now conducted by Bro. Matthew Cooke, “the enemy of foreign Masonry.” A reference to the first page of the *MAGAZINE* would have been sufficient to contradict the first statement, and all Bro. Cooke’s writings will disprove the second.

We never asserted, as our Paris brother seems to imagine, that we should reserve to ourselves the right of treating of “prohibited things” under the cover of unsigned and anonymous correspondence, though we did say, if we might not describe certain transactions in reports, we would do so in leading articles, and for which we would hold ourselves fully responsible to Masonic or other tribunals.

We certainly did congratulate the Craft on the success which had attended the various festivals on behalf of the Masonic Charities, but we deny that we put the charity of the brethren to the credit of the presidents of those festivals, though it would be useless to deny that the name of some popular—yes, we may add—noble brother, as the forthcoming chairman for any given charity does go some way in adding to the list of Stewards, and thereby to the subscriptions subsequently announced. But in making this admission we do not say that we approve the system, but it is the habit of Englishmen, both in and out of Masonry, to bow to rank and talent, the more especially where both are combined, as they doubtless are, in the person of the Deputy Grand Master, to whom special allusion is made.

Our contemporary then informs us that the brethren will “seek in vain” in the articles of the *MAGAZINE*, “for a trace of a serious study treated of in the lodges of an interesting philosophical question discussed at the meetings of a society which flatters itself it works for the progress, moral well-being, and intellectuality of humanity.” And here we plead guilty to the charge. No such discussions do appear in the *MAGAZINE* as taking place in our lodges, and why? For the simple reason that nothing beyond forms and ceremonies, which somewhat pall by their constant repetition, are ever enacted in our lodges, a

circumstance to which we have often called attention, in their hope that some lodge would set the example of having regular scientific or literary lectures on points of interest to the Craft, if not on their regular meeting nights, at least on off nights, as is the practice in a few of the best conducted lodges in Scotland.

We are not going here to discuss the question of “Universal Freemasonry,” it being sufficient for us to know that toleration is the ground work on which the English Craft is founded, and whilst we maintain that position, we still have the highest respect for the high grades.

As to Bro. Cooke’s belief in “fatality,” or any other doctrine, we shall leave him to answer for himself, assuring our contemporary, however, that we are not prepared to sacrifice either our Masonic Charities, or the principles upon which English Freemasonry is based, for the French definition of “liberty, equality, and fraternity.”

We subjoin the article from *Le Monde Maçon-nique* :—

“Our London contemporary, the *FREEMASONS’ MAGAZINE*, publishes, according to custom, an address to its readers, at the end of the first six months of this year, and this address points out markedly, once more, how this publication is conducted.

“The two pages which it devotes to this address do not contain a single word on Universal Masonry out of England, and if ever a motto was justified it is that which appears at the head of the *MAGAZINE*, ‘Audi, Vide, Tace,’ but it ought to apply only to the symbols and mysteries of the Order in the interior of its temples, and not to the intellectual movement of Masonry in all parts of the globe.

“If we criticise the *MAGAZINE* afresh, it is to edify our readers and our English brethren, who, as we well know, see with regret that Masonry does not possess a more earnest organ in England.

“The *MAGAZINE*, as we have been told, is no longer directed by Bro. Warren, its old proprietor, it is Bro. Matthew Cooke who has become the almost sole editor. This Bro. Cooke is the enemy of foreign Masonry, the friend of the system of the high grades, and his object is to make our Order simply a chapel-of-ease for the Anglican Protestant Church.

“The high aristocratic dignitaries at the head of the Order in England are naturally not opposed to these doctrines, but the brethren in general value this organ of Freemasonry little, and read it still less, because it only very rarely gives them interesting articles or communications.

“Here is a specimen of the summary article on Masonry in the first six months of 1864 :—‘Before we refer to the Masonic doings of the past six

months, we may be excused, if, according to custom, we briefly refer to the movements in the outer world during the same period. The Queen—whom we all pray God may long preserve to us—has, after long retirement, again appeared in public, though but to a limited extent, her health being as far from satisfactory as could be desired; but in the meantime those social duties which are required from the Sovereign—somewhat unduly as we, who do not live in the fashionable world may imagine—have been well performed by her son, the Prince of Wales, and his interesting Princess, who must, indeed, have had, and still have an anxious time before her. For whilst she is expected to appear in public with smiles on her face, who can doubt that anguish must wring her heart at the events which are taking place in her native land, and the hazard of that throne to which her beloved father has only lately ascended. As regards the efforts which have been made by this country, in conjunction with the other neutral Powers, to restore peace between Germany and Denmark, between the giant and the dwarf, it is not our place to speak. As Masons, we can only deplore that the results have not been satisfactory, and that the sword is left to restore that peace which, uninfluenced by passion, should have been brought about by reason and the councils of friends.

"One would, think, perhaps that the MAGAZINE was now going to continue to review the recent history of the world—that it was going to weep over the deaths on the fratricidal battle-fields of America, where so many of our good brethren have fallen—that it was going to regret the English cruelties in Japan—the savage struggles in the Indian Archipelago, or on the coast of Africa—for all this touches home to humanity and Masonry, which knows neither politics nor nations, has the feeling of being bound up with all men.

"Our contemporary does not dream there. In speaking of the English Court and of its friends at the Court of Copenhagen, it has said all that interests it, and without transition it 'quits the exterior world to return to the lodges.'

"It congratulates the brethren on the peace which reigns here 'in spite of the interdiction with which the MAGAZINE has been struck by the Provincial Grand Master of South Wales.' After having made allusion, in ill-chosen terms, to its recent discussions with Masonic authority, the MAGAZINE declares that it will abstain for the future from speaking of the details of interior order by which its giving an account of the ceremonies has drawn down on it official censure; but it reserves to itself the right of treating of these same prohibited things, under the form of private and unsigned correspondence, which appears to our contemporary a frank and Masonic means of escaping the difficulty. We regret not being of its opinion, and should prefer it to have assumed the responsibility for its writers.

"*Apropos* of the construction of the new Ma-

sonic Tavern in London, 'of which the laying of the foundation-stone has been the most important act of the long official career of the Grand Master the Earl of Zetland,' the MAGAZINE says that one part of the edifice will be ready for the use of the Order on the occasion of the next grand festival, and that all will be finished in two years. Our contemporary adds judiciously and gravely, 'we cannot say how many among those who are interested in the success of the enterprise will be still amongst us at that time.'

"The rest of the article treats of the three great charitable institutions of English Masonry. It congratulates itself on the result of the subscriptions, and it always takes care to put the charity of the brethren to the account of some great noble person, whose influence in the province where his property is situated, and where he is generally at the head of the Masonic Order, would be an especial cause for the generosity of the brethren at the time of the *fête* of the institution. Thus it already announces that next year the *fête* of the Royal Benevolent Institution will be presided over by the Deputy Grand Master, Earl de Grey and Ripon, who is, at the same time, Provincial Grand Master of West Yorkshire, where he has large estates, and the MAGAZINE engages the brethren to give brilliancy to this solemnity. We deeply regret that on all occasions in England Masonry is made in a manner to perpetuate the idea and feeling of feudal power.

The article in the MAGAZINE contains nothing more, and you will seek there in vain for a trace of a serious study treated of in the lodges or of an interesting philosophical question discussed at the meetings of a society which flatters itself it works for the progress, moral well-being, and intellectuality of humanity. It is for this reason that we do not envy our English brethren the splendour of their great charitable institutions if their prosperity and their grandeur are bought at this price.

Several provincial lodges have already commenced founding special institutions under their own control and de-centralised from the routine influence of the Grand Lodge of England and its high dignitaries. It is thus that amongst others the Humber Lodge, the Orient of Hull, is about to use the gifts of the brethren for a charitable foundation in that town, in the place of sending them to London for the glory of the noble president, and for the enriching of a budget of which a small part only directly benefits those for whom it is destined.

[An account is here given of the proceedings in connection with the Fortescue Memorial in Devonshire.]

"Here are two little extracts from Notes and Queries of the MAGAZINE, 'A brother asks what should a Freemason know?—His duty to God and to his neighbour, with such other branches of human knowledge as will fit him for work and leisure in

that state of life in which it has pleased God to call him.' Another Brother who signs himself 'A Bible Student,' speaks as follows about our Order:—'At a time when the inspiration of the Holy Scriptures is being regularly assailed on all sides, the following reasons why we, as Freemasons, should strenuously uphold them are offered to the Craft:—1. Because, without Scripture, Masonic traditions have no basis; Masonic morals no sanction. 2. Our profession of trust in God is Scriptural. 3. Our means of recognition are Scriptural. 4. Our prayers are Scriptural. 5. Our chief light is the Scriptures. 6. The centre of our gatherings and of our circuits is the Scriptures. 7. The most honoured object in our public displays is the Scriptures. 8. Our Master is bound to make the Scriptures the chief source of his instruction.'

"The 'Bible student,' says *Le Monde*, 'adds that he could give other reasons but that those would suffice.' We are of this opinion, only if the 'Bible Student' had studied Masonry a little more he would have found the contrary of what he advances without proving anything, and above all he would have known that the facts that he credits by quoting are English and recent introductions into Masonry, and that these anti-Masonic usages will disappear on the day when English brethren shall at last free themselves from the fatal oppression that the British aristocracy and prelates exercise over the Order. One word to the author of these Biblical reasons. The English Grand Lodge admits adherents of all religions. What Biblical instruction would he give to those who don't believe there are Holy Scriptures? To those who reject the dogmas taught in the Bible?

"As to the response of Bro. Cooke to the science that a Mason ought to acquire, it is the personification of a belief in fatality. A man is born in a certain state (or condition), he ought to remain there, for God wills it. He ought only to understand what is suitable to his state. Lastly, he has only duties towards God and his neighbour, he has none towards himself. And where does he find the notion of these duties, of which it there is a question? On what are these duties based? The brother questioner ought only to be half satisfied with the unphilosophical answers of a brother who, according to the ideas which he expresses there could not pass the first examination before the committee of one of our lodges, the three fundamental ideas of our Order, liberty, equality, and fraternity, are contrary to his definition of the duties and knowledge of a Mason."

THE SPIDER AND THE BEE.—The spider is wiser than the bee. The former sucks poison from everything, and the latter honey. So the former isn't robbed, and the latter is.

On the blue mountains of our dim childhood, toward which we ever turn and look, stand the mothers who marked out to us from thence our life; the most blessed age must be forgotten ere we can forget the warmest heart.

THE ACTOR'S HOLIDAY.

Mr. E. A. Sothern (Lord Dundreary) and Mr. Alexander Henderson, lessee of the Prince of Wales Theatre, Liverpool, who are at present rusticated in the Lake District, were the heroes of a most amusing adventure at Keswick, on Thursday evening, the 4th inst. Mr. Henderson, in a letter received in Liverpool on Saturday, says:—"Quite a sensation scene occurred here (Keswick) last night. Sothern and I went to see the performances at a small theatre here, and on entering (I fancy the treasury must have been about 4s. 6d.), and throwing down our 2s. each, the woman taking the money seemed slightly staggered—so much so, that she evidently made enquiry who the reckless individuals were. An old fellow, who had been boring us about boats, who had ascertained our names at the hotel, and who had sponged on us for a pit ticket, soon let the cat out of the bag. The news of "Lord Dundreary" being in the theatre spread like wildfire over the town, and in an incredibly short space of time the previously empty house was jammed. The performance was ignored, every one turning and staring like mad, and saying, 'Oh, that's him with the moustaches'—'No, it's him with the rummy hat'—'Oh, you fool, everybody knows he wears big whiskers,' &c. This was, as you may suppose, very funny at first, but it soon became rather annoying, and we rose to leave, when some fellow at the back sang out, 'Three cheers for Lord Dundreary and Brother Sam.' This, of course, was taken up by the whole house. A scene ensued, the curtain dropped, and after a continuous uproar some one stepped on the stage and said he had been requested 'to ask Mr. Sothern if he would oblige, &c., by reading his celebrated letter from Brother Sam. Sothern tried by every means to evade this. Eventually, he made a speech from his seat, but it was no go. At last, joining in the fun, he got on the stage and read the letter. He then ran behind the curtain and out of the stage door, leaving poor me to do the best I could; and for an extra 'sell' I got up and shouted 'He's gone out by the back door;' and, like madmen, everybody then rushed out of the theatre, leaving it in a few minutes quite empty. About an hour afterwards the band came to our hotel to serenade us, when we invited them in and made them jolly. The tandem is now at the door, and the street full of people waiting to see us start."

CURIOUS SEPULCHRAL MONUMENTS IN WARWICKSHIRE, OF THE 13TH AND 14TH CENTURIES.

By MR. BLOXAM.

(Concluded from page 104.)

Of recumbent sepulchral effigies of priests I may briefly notice those at Hillmorton, Stoneleigh, and Kineton. These are represented in the vestments worn at the celebration of the Eucharistic Sacrifice in the amice, alb, stole, maniple, and chasuble. There is no peculiarity in any of these effigies; they are all of the usual type. In Newton Regis Church there is, however, a very curious monument of this era, consisting of a low tomb or slab rudely sculptured in low relief under a sepulchral arch in the north wall of the chancel. It represents in a trefoliated compartment the busto of a priest, with the missal or breviary on one side and a chalice on the other: above are angels waving thuribles, with the conventional representation of angels conveying a soul to heaven in the likeness of a nude figure in a sheet. Two acolytes bearing tapers appear beneath the busto, whilst at the foot of the slab is sculptured the Agnus Dei, or symbolical representation of our blessed Lord under the type of a lamb, and at the head of the slab the Spiritus Sanctus, or Holy Ghost in the form of a dove. The execution of this monument is remarkably rude for the age in which it was executed.

In Polesworth Church, formerly conventual, is the very curious, and perhaps unique sculptured recumbent effigy of a prioress of that establishment—a Benedictine nunnery. It is, I think, of the fourteenth century. Her head appears in a trefoil-shaped sinking. Round the head, chin, and neck is the coif and wimple, and over the head is worn the veil. She is habited in a large gown or cowl with wide hanging sleeves, but without any mantle. In her right hand she held the pastoral staff, floriated within the crook, which is turned inwards, and in her left hand is held the *Horæ* or book of prayers, whilst beneath her feet is the figure of a hart or stag, perhaps in allusion to the verse in the psalms, "As the hart desireth the water brooks."

This is the only sculptured recumbent effigy of an abbess I have met with in this county. There are some few inlaid brass effigies, such as that at Elstow, in Bedfordshire, and some few statuettes, as those round the tomb of Lady Montacute, in Oxford Cathedral.

There is in the Church of Orton-on-the-Hill, Leicestershire, anciently a chapel belonging to the Abbey of Merivale, in this county, the recumbent effigy of a Cistercian monk—one of the abbots, I am inclined to think, of Merivale, and probably removed from the abbey church of Merivale to Orton on the suppression and destruction of the abbey church. It represents him in the Cappa

clausa, or close cowl, with the mozetta and hood attached to it thrown back over the shoulders, whilst on the head is worn the coif or close-fitting scull-cap, called the biretum. Over the head is an ogee canopy, which refers the date to the fourteenth century. This effigy is, as far as my knowledge extends, perfectly unique.

There is one more monument and effigy of the fourteenth century I consider greatly interesting. This is a rich high tomb, placed beneath a very rich canopied arch, at Cherrington Church, in the south of Warwickshire. The canopy or arch over that tomb takes in form that of a low and obtusely-pointed ogee arch, the interior mouldings of which are crocketed, whilst the under part or soffit is cinque-foiled. Hollow mouldings in the architrave contain a series of the ball and four-leaved flower, rich accessories in architectural details of the fourteenth century. The sides of the tomb are divided into a series of rich canopied recesses, ogee headed and crocketed, and trefoiled within the heads. On the north side of this tomb, which stands between the nave and eastern part of the north aisle, is a drain or piscina, into which the priest poured the water with which he washed his hands during the celebration of mass. This piscina, forming part of the monument itself, is a very curious arrangement, and I do not remember to have met with it elsewhere; it is, however, indicative of the fact that the east end of the north aisle had been converted into a chantry chapel.

The recumbent effigy on this tomb is very curious, and exhibits a singular specimen of the civil costume or ordinary dress of a gentleman, frankelín, or squire of a parish in the fourteenth century.

The dress is that which in ancient wills of this period is described as consisting of "*Tunica et Supertunica cum caputio*," that is, a long coat or tunic with close-fitting sleeves buttoned from the elbows to the wrists, the *manicæ botonatæ*: over this tunic is worn a supertunic or surcoat with loose sleeves hanging down. The supertunic is girt by a narrow belt buckled in front, and from this belt is suspended on the right side an anclace or knife. On the head, and covering the shoulders and breast, is a kind of tippet combined with a hood very like the modern cape, and called the *caputium*. The terms "*cote and hood*," two of the articles of apparel, are mentioned in *Piers Plowman Crede*, written in the fourteenth century, and also in the poems of Chaucer. On each side of the head of this effigy is an angel, and the feet rest against a lion.

Although this effigy is far from unique, there being many sculptured effigies of this class of the fourteenth century, which have not however been yet satisfactorily treated of or described, the whole of this monument is exceedingly rich and curious, and one of the most remarkable in the county of Warwick.

There are other monumental effigies of great

interest and variety, of later date than the fourteenth century, to be met with in the county of Warwick, but these I do not now propose to dwell on, having limited my subject to a period not later than the fourteenth century.

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

BRO. KOSSUTH.

In his petition to the Masonic lodge at Cincinnati, he inserted with his own hand this touching sentence:—"Being an exile for liberty's sake, he has no place of fixed residence; is now staying at Cincinnati. His age is forty-nine and a half years; his occupation is to restore his native land, Hungary, to its national independence, and to achieve by community of action, with other nations, civil and religious liberty in Europe."

CONSTABLE OF THE WHITE DRAGON AND MACE.

Where can I be admitted to the degree of Constable of the White Dragon and Mace?—S.—[We don't know, never having before heard of that euphonious degree. Sir Knt. Shuttleworth, 14, Bedford-row, may be able to inform—and, perhaps, admit you, as he is supposed to be the hyper-ultra serene Grand Master of all unrecognised Masonic degrees either of ancient or modern origin.]

THE CHERUBIM.

On the Grand Lodge seal are two figures of the cherubim. When I received my certificate, I asked the officers of the lodge I am a member of, one after another, to tell me something about them, but it was useless; all I could obtain was, "they were cherubims, and," as I could see for myself, "used by the Grand Lodge as part of its device." I do not think it creditable to use a representation we do not understand, and to find those who ought to be able to instruct as ignorant on the subject as I am; therefore, if you will explain the cherubim to us I am sure you will do some brethren in my lodge good, besides enlightening—Z. Z. Z., *Temple Newsam*.—[We will give you some explanation of the cherubim next week.]

SIR KNIGHT.

Ought not we who have taken the Templar degree to be addressed as Sir Knight — — —? When I was admitted to that Order I was dubbed by a secular knight, and told that from henceforth I should be called Sir Knight — — —. A few days after I received a letter from the E.C. of my Encampment addressed — — —, Esq. Either the knighthood was, or was not given, and if it was I was no longer an Esquire—if not I was not knighted. Pray explain how this comes to be the usage which, as Lord Dundreary says, "no fellah can understand."—CHEVALIER. —[In Great Britain "the Sovereign is the fountain of honour."—*Vide Selden's Titles of Honour*. Although the Templars were an order possessed of Sovereign rights, those rights have lapsed. The days of chivalry have departed when one secular knight could confer the honour of knighthood on another. We live in a different age. Suppose we consider all men who have been made Templars to claim the pre-

fix to their names, what ridicule would they bring upon themselves? Let us take as an instance a very worthy Templar we know personally. A. is a fruiterer; if a letter was sent to him directed Sir Knt. J. A., Fruiterer, what a hue and cry would be raised in his street! But no one objects to his being addressed J. A., Esq., Fruiterer, — Street. It is now common courtesy to style any well-to-do person an Esquire, although engaged in trade. How absurd it would be for any one to claim to be called Sir Knt. under such circumstances. Again, the very prefix Sir Knt. would defeat the object. A knight bachelor or knight banneret—there are very few of the latter now, because they were made by the Sovereign or Commander on the field of battle—is always addressed as Sir John — — —, or Sir John — — —, Knt., not Sir Knt. John — — —. Baronets, of course, are beyond the mark, because their titles are always given as Sir John — — —, Bart., thus indicating their rank most unmistakably. You are entitled to be known amongst Freemasons as Sir Knt., but in your encampment if a knight bachelor, or baronet, was to visit it, would not the assumption of such a title as Sir — — — clash with one really so recognised by the state? Stick to the Sir Knt. of Freemasonry in Templary. Out of it be an Esquire, if such is your status in society, or do not think it beneath you to be addressed as plain Mr. We, ourselves, have the right to be called Esquire, having held certain "notable employ" under the Sovereign which has given us, for life, the precedence of an "Esquire of the body;" but we should be very foolish, indeed, did we ever refuse to be addressed as Mr., or take the slightest notice of the lowering of our dignity. One of the rules of courtly etiquette is never to be offended by any one addressing you under your proper position, as they may not be aware of it; but it is a dire insult to offer a person a rank he has no title to, one above him, as that insinuates the person so addressed to have set up some kind of claim to honours to which he has no just pretension. For your consolation remember the dictum of one of the most perfect gentlemen, who declared, "I would rather be amongst the upper ranks of the commoners of England than be enrolled amongst the lower classes of her titled nobility."]

GRAND CHAPTER FUNDS.

What becomes of the funds of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons? Do they ever go to the relief of poor or decayed companions, or are they devoted to keeping up a costly executive? What is the amount in hand? It ought to be pretty considerable, seeing we never hear anything of its appropriation. —A R. A. MASON.—[We can't tell, and very much doubt if any one else can. The Grand Chapter is a very useless affair altogether, and, in a future number, we will show its origin and some of its abuses.]

SECRET SOCIETIES AND THE AMERICAN WAR.

Another phase of the struggle in America has just come to light. By the last mail from New York we learn that a secret society has been inaugurated for the purpose of erecting a third state, and although the subject is a political one, it is worthy of being made into a note, in Masonic Notes and Queries, for future reference. The St. Louis *Democrat* publishes a long account of the conspiracy for the erection of a

North-Western Confederacy. The organisation engaged in this conspiracy is known as the "Order of American Knights," and its real object is to embarrass the Government in the conduct of the war, and overthrow the Government, if necessary, for the supremacy of the order. Its professions and purposes are different in different states—proclaiming a war policy in New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and other Eastern States, while in the West it is for peace. The order is of Southern origin, being erected on the ruin of the Knights of the Golden Circle. The rebel General Sterling Price is Supreme Commander. Vallandigham, while in Richmond, was made the Supreme Commander of the Northern section, and a conspiracy was entered into between him and the rebel authorities to divide the East and West, and thus to aid the Southern rebellion. Vallandigham's time in Canada was principally spent in furthering this scheme. He had a conference with some of the leading spirits in the North soon after his arrival in Canada, and arranged for the establishment of the Order throughout the loyal States. The names of all who visited him at the Clifton House are known to the Government, among whom are Wm. B. Reed, of Philadelphia; Pendleton and Pugh, of Ohio; Kribben, of St. Louis; and Story and Merrick, of Chicago. The result of this conference was known to the Government. About the 1st of January, Mr. Vallandigham issued an address to the lodges in the United States, in which he calls upon the members to renew their vows. He says the time is fast approaching which will test their sincerity. He declares that the prosecution of the war is a violation of the rights of the States, and that President Lincoln is a tyrant and usurper. A meeting of the Grand Commanders of the different States was held in the city of New York on the 22nd day of February, for the purpose of organising an outbreak on the 10th March, the day fixed for the draft to take place, but no definite plan was agreed upon. The names of these conspirators are also known. The commander had a conference with the Supreme Commander at Windsor, Canada, early in April, for general consultation. Among those in attendance at this conference were the Grand Commander in New York, Charles L. Hunt, of St. Louis, and Lafayette Dealin, of Indiana. The programme adopted at this meeting was that Mr. Vallandigham should represent his district in Ohio in the National Democratic Convention to be held in the City of Chicago. Mr. Vallandigham, in the National Democratic Convention, was to proclaim the doctrines of the order of the American Knights, namely, pronounce the existing administration of the Government a power usurped, which the people had a right to expel by force, if necessary—in fact, to inaugurate a rebellion in the North, in which he was to be supported by the Order. Each Grand Commander was to have, fully armed and equipped, a body guard at the National Convention in Chicago, for the defence of Mr. Vallandigham. This, it was thought, would precipitate the people of the free States into an armed conflict, which was to be the signal for the Knights of the American Order to unite against the lawful authorities, and kill or capture the civil and military authorities. The knights were then to seize the arsenals, arms, and public property of all kinds, and proclaim the Government overthrown. There is most

convincing evidence of the truthfulness of this statement. The reason of Mr. Vallandigham's sudden return to Ohio was the fear of being defeated as a delegate to the National Democratic Convention to be held at Chicago, and it was only by his presence in the State that his election as a delegate was secured. The numerical strength of the Knights of the American Order is over half a million. One hundred and fifty thousand of this number are armed and organised. The Order in New York numbers over two hundred thousand men, who are organised into minute men. The Grand Commander in Missouri is Charles L. Hunt, a nephew of James H. Lucas, and for many years the Belgian Consul. The Deputy Grand Commander in this city is Charles E. Dunn. An officer in St. Louis has a long list of the names of the members of the order, together with full information concerning the whole scheme. The whole affair has been thoroughly brought to light, and the proof of it is in the hands of the authorities at Washington, and will be given to the public at the proper time.—Ex. Ex.

MASONIC BUNKUM.

I see the Christian Masonic procession as it marches through this to the upper world. Thousands upon thousands, millions upon millions. Here the crusades come again, that they direct all their hopes to the east and travel towards the Holy Land; see, they will go back the way of Moriah and Calvary; and yet the procession goes onward still, and rises higher than the pinnacle of the earth. I see them come—the Master, and the Craftsman, the Apprentices; then come the vast army of martyrs, the true Templars of the Cross, the pioneers of redemption, having on them the marks of fire and violence, red their blood, and then a vast multitude of every nation, kindred, tongue, and people. What a procession! The loud song of cymbal and harp, the harmony of celestial choirs ring in my ears, the wind of their banners fans my heated brow. They have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. I look higher; far beyond Calvary I see the everlasting doors of the upper Temple open. Let there be light, speaks the great sweet voice of the great Grand Master of eternity. An exceeding brightness burns upon the head of the vast procession. Banner, and plume, and cross, are bathed in the pure white that rolls down its ocean gulf of living purity. I see them no more.—*Maffit's Oration.*

MASONIC LITERATURE.

The literature of Masonry presents a theme for consideration which claims the interest of every intelligent Craftsman. It should be estimated according to its importance by every member of the Order. There is no doubt that we have made great advances in this department of our study within the past few years. It is clearly evident that there are, proportionably, more readers and students of Masonic works now than there ever were at any former period of our history. The evidence of this fact is found in the increased and increasing demand for Masonic publications. It were well that this good work should go on, and that the desire for reading and instruction should be encouraged and increased everywhere. One of the surest methods of elevating the

Craft still higher in the scale of intelligence and virtue, is to foster the disposition to learn the mysteries of the Masonic rites and their moral application. In the frequent examinations and discussions that take place upon every subject, and in relation to such portions of the ritual as may be quoted, a vast variety of useful and highly interesting information has been circulated; through these agencies a taste for reading and a desire for the attainment of knowledge has been produced, the result of which must be of incalculable benefit to the fraternity. The difference between an ignorant and a well-informed Mason is so great that we should suppose every member of the Order that can read his own language, and no others can without gross impropriety be admitted, would inform himself upon such points of Masonic duty and action as are in daily application, and necessary to be understood, in order to his apprehension and enjoyment of his position and privileges as a Mason. The Master Mason that does not read, and neglects the study of his profession, deserves to be restricted in his privileges to the use of such of the immunities of the Order as he is capable of appreciating. To call a man Master, when in his intelligence and capability he is nothing more than an Entered Apprentice, is an absurdity. As long as the Master Mason lives he should continue to learn more and more of the mysterious character of his profession, and each day, as it adds to his experience, ought to increase his store of Masonic knowledge.—*McJ.*

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Editor is not responsible for the opinions expressed by Correspondents.

A FRENCH LIGHT ON FREEMASONRY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE AND MASONIC MIRROR.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I am very glad that the little notice at the head of this section of THE MAGAZINE, disclaiming all responsibility advanced by your correspondents, is not a thing of yesterday, as it enables me to write freely without committing you to a single word I may indite, and cannot be said to be introduced for this or any other special purpose.

In this month's number of *Le Monde Maçonnique* you and I are attacked by name, and I feel it an honour by being included in such good company. Though the article in question joins our names together, I do not think I ought to intrude on you for any share of that more prominent space which, by journalistic right and usage, is your due as *the Editor* of THE FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE, and am quite content to say my purely personal say in these columns, and thus take the entire responsibility of every syllable I pen on my own shoulders. Neither will I, for one moment, attempt any defence of your case. Such a proceeding, on my part, would be both impertinent and useless, because I know how ably and trenchantly you can dispose of such "poor game," if you deem it worthy of your notice. I certainly should have preferred to have let the matter sink into that oblivion, which its appearance in the pages of *Le Monde Maçonnique* ensures, but for obvious reasons.

The writer who signs his name because, by the law relating to journalism in France, he dare not withhold it, admits that he does not attack me from his

own knowledge, and therefore there is no occasion for parading his name in this letter, and giving him such an amount of popularity among Freemasons in all parts of the world as he could never effect for himself in the pages of *Le Monde Maçonnique*. It will be quite sufficient, then, to style him the French writer.

Had this French writer cut me up root and branch in the way of fair criticism, I should have had no cause of complaint. Every one who writes in a newspaper is liable to such a fate; but I do complain of the unseen agency which has prompted the attack, and that the mischief lies in his manner of telling what "he has been told."

Now, I believe I can safely trace the affair by circumstantial evidence to the unkindness of a provincial brother who has written occasionally in this MAGAZINE. His theory on certain points was opposed and ably refuted by another provincial brother, but the former, for some unexplained reasons, took it into his head that I was the individual who had brought him to grief, and you know, as well as I do, that I never wrote a line in the matter. He had also another cause of offence. He sought me at my lodge and at the British Museum, and, failing to suck my brains for his own purposes, turned round upon me and did me one serious evil, and tried to damage my prospects in a second place. The first you know of, and how my pen and tongue have hitherto been tied. The other was unconnected with Freemasonry. In the former case my persecutor was successful, because he was a high provincial dignitary; in the latter, I am happy to say, he only got himself laughed at for his pains. To this brother's door does as pretty a chain of circumstantial evidence lead as ever was followed up by a criminal lawyer. To him and another brother the French writer is indebted for what "we have been told," and I am sorry to say some of that telling is untrue.

As you well know, it is untrue to say that you no longer edit the MAGAZINE, and that I am its almost sole editor. No more mischievous report could have been set afloat, and none more opposite to the fact. After the six years I have been engaged by, and with, you; after your various, generous, and important, acts of kindness to me; after the good feeling that has existed between us, you know how I honour and respect you, and you also know that when you cease to be the editor of this MAGAZINE my work is done in these pages. The attempt to sow the seed of discord between us is only worthy the prompting of a demon; but I have that knowledge of your character that I feel the plan devised will be futile, and I trust you know me well enough to believe I have never claimed more in this paper than to work with, and under, you.

And now to consider a few instances of this Anglo-French light on Freemasonry.

It is as foolish as it is false for the French writer to assert that I am an enemy to foreign Freemasonry. I am not an enemy to Freemasonry under any circumstances, but am an advocate for the broadest and most cosmopolitan extension of the Order. If I am, what the French writer says he has been informed I am, a friend of the high-grade system—and which I do not for one moment deny, but am proud to endorse—that will not prove my enmity to foreign Freema-

sonry, and least of all here, in England, where the high-grades—whether rightly or wrongly is no part of my business now—are reputed to be foreign Freemasonry. How, then, can a friendship for them be an opposition to foreign Freemasonry? If a Briton prefers England to Ireland, Scotland, or Wales, can it be said he is an enemy of Great Britain? The analogy is perfect, inasmuch as the high-grades are part and parcel of the cosmopolitan Freemasonry of the whole world, just as the four sister peoples are equally members of the British Empire.

The French writer has been pleased to make me a person of great importance, whether in irony or no is not quite conclusive; but he attributes to me an object—that of making Freemasonry “into a chapel-of-ease to the Anglican-Protestant Church.” This is, certainly, quite a new light on Freemasonry, and convicts the writer of his utter ignorance and want of Masonic knowledge, or he would have known that “it is not in the power of any man, or body of men, to make innovations in the body of Masonry.” Much less is it in the power of any one brother, without the slightest influence or desire, to make Freemasonry anything but what it is. The notion is as absurd as its insinuation against a brother is dangerous. It is also a great pity that his clerical instigator did not inform the French writer that there is no such a hybrid as an Anglican-Protestant—though there is an Anglo-Catholic—Church. It may suit the French writer to ignore all churchmanship, just as it suits an Anglican parish priest “to know nothing of religion in Masonry.”

My versatility really must be very great, for no sooner is the last indictment closed, than I am no longer an advocote for the “Anglican-Protestant” Church, but am turned into a fatalist, and the grounds for this accusation is that I told an inquirer “to do his duty in that state of life unto which it had pleased God to call him.” Is it necessary to say, what every child is aware of, the words are not mine, but a sentence from the Catechism? The French writer tries hard to make it appear that, in whatever condition of life a child is born, I say he ought to continue in it. If you, or any of your readers, so understand the quotation, I am sorry for it. This very remarkable French writer, by way of a clench, I suppose, asks, “If a man has only duties towards God and his neighbour, has he none towards himself?” To this most sapient question, I beg leave to say if a man does his duty to God and to his neighbour, he must do his duty to himself.

The French writer proceeds to say that, with such opinions, I should not be able to pass the first examination before the committee of a French lodge. That the three fundamental laws of the Order are liberty, equality, and fraternity, and are contrary to my description of the duties and knowledge of a Freemason. This may be the French writer’s private ideas of what constitutes Freemasonry, but it is very questionable if such is held by even a small section of the brethren in France, for it must be borne in mind that Freemasonry was introduced into France in 1725 under the English Constitution; that in 1736 France was made into a Provincial Grand Lodge of England; that in 1743 it was recognised as the English Grand of France, and in 1756 at last became an independent Grand Lodge. Now, it cannot be supposed that in

the thirty-one years that it was dependent on this country the three fundamental principles of the Order were any other, as they still remain with us, than brotherly love, relief, and truth, and that liberty, equality, and fraternity are the baneful seeds of that philosophy which made the fair land of Gaul a blood-stained sepulchre. We never could have taught such principles, because liberty has been an inherent property with us, since the days of Magna Charta. Our equality is that no man derogates from his honour, or station, in becoming a Freemason, but how does the French writer look at equality? He says “These anti-Masonic usages will disappear on the day when the English brethren shall, at last, free themselves from the fatal oppression that the British aristocracy and prelates exercise over the Order.” God forbid Freemasons should ever see a day when, by the substitution of the new for the old formula, the three principles should be changed for the false philosophy which culminates in a baptism of blood. May none of us, or our children’s children, aid in overturning the Constitution of Old England, or for a visionary liberty throw away the solid blessings we enjoy. We neither want new principles or watchwords, though we have no objection to the French writer’s croaking his philosophy till he is hoarse; but we tell him, he is departing from cosmopolitan Freemasonry, and is not only injuring its fundamental principles, but committing overt treason against his mother country. In our lodges politics have no place, and though under the despotisms of the Continent the lodge may be the only spot where men can utter their discontent and plot against the reigning powers, yet here we know nothing of such passions; brotherly love, relief, and truth are the mainspring of our actions, and so long as we look to those principles so long we shall enjoy what we possess, in a happy country, equal laws, true liberty, and content.

Perhaps you may think I have treated this attack as of too great an importance, yet I felt, from the repeated aggressions of the instigator and the unscrupulous mode he has adopted to make a breach between us, nothing but an open, honest, manly acknowledgment on my part that you are, and may you long continue, the editor of this MAGAZINE and my friend, to whom I am both deeply indebted and ever grateful. Nothing but this, I believed, could silence the repeated machinations of one who has left no stone unturned to ruin me with the Craft, yourself, and in my daily struggle for bread. Leaving him and his two foreign brethren to such satisfaction as they can derive for the future in knowing that I shall not recur to them again,

I am, dear Sir and Brother,

Yours truly and fraternally,

✠ MATTHEW COOKE, 30.

[We publish the above just as we have received it, but cannot help thinking that Bro. Cooke takes all criticism upon him and us a little too seriously, and that he is apt to conjure up phantoms merely for the pleasure of destroying them. So far as we are personally concerned, we are prepared to laugh at attacks which, perhaps, we have ourselves provoked.—ED. F. M. and M. M.]

MASONRY ABROAD.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE AND MASONIC MIRROR.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Knowing that you are ready and willing to uphold the ancient landmarks of the Order, allow me to lay before you a few facts for the information of the Craft in general. Two American gentlemen went to Flushing, and being anxious to become Freemasons, they spoke to the consul there, who belonged to the fraternity. He promised to take steps to carry out their views. After a few days he wrote saying, he had made arrangements and they were to attend at his house on Friday, 10th June. They went there, and paid £11 each. The practice is to charge a sum for each degree, but here they paid the whole. They then went to the lodge, and were initiated without any preparation whatever. On the Sunday following (they being sailors) the ship was ordered to sea. As soon as the consul heard of this, he sent M.M. certificates on board to the candidates, with a letter (authorisation), in Dutch, to the brethren (there were five) on board, to give the candidates the second and third degrees. This they refused to do, because it was unconstitutional. The following is a translated copy of the authorisation:—

“Flushing, 12th June, 1864.

“H. Z. V., W. K. S.—The Lodge l'Aster de l'Orient has the honour to request M. L. A. and the other brethren on board to have the goodness to communicate to Bros. L. L. — and — of degrees of Craft and Master, and afterwards hand them the accompanying diploma of Master Masons. In case your vessel should hereafter come here, then the lodge is ready to confer upon them this degree in due form. We take a brotherly leave of M. L. A. and the other brethren, and the two children of the work-place, and call down upon you a hearty farewell. The O.B.U. remains, recommends, and believe us to be A. U. 1, 9, 2, 3, + 3.

“The lodge above named,
“ — Secretary.”

The gentlemen of course, for want of knowing better, expected the completion of their degrees, and upon the explanation of the brethren on board, wrote to Flushing stating all the facts. A copy of this was not kept, but the reply was as follows:—

“O. of Flushing, 3rd July, 1864.

“Bro. —,—We received your letter of the 27th June, and regret very much we have not the pleasure of seeing you back again. We are surprised that you and Bro. — have not yet been enabled to obtain the degrees of Craftsmen and Masters, and make yourself known as such. We wrote to Bro. — and invited the other brethren to acquaint you with the second and third degrees, and install you in the name of the G.E. of the Netherlands, and in the name of this lodge, even though it must be done in this case in a simple manner. With the confident hope that the brethren would most kindly perform our wishes, we gave to Bro. — the diplomas (certificates) drawn in due form to make yourself known as Master Freemasons in all lodges in all parts of the world. We express our ardent wish that this affair shall be concluded in a most satisfactory manner, and that the brethren will make no objection in acting according to our wish. If not, we should

require the return of the diplomas and the authorisation, in order to justify ourselves to the G.E. of the Netherlands, but fear that the occasion for sending them back will not easily be found. We beg you to acquaint the brethren with the contents of this letter, and present them our compliments. To you all we wish blessings, and prosperity, wisdom, force, and beauty, and in your after life success in your enterprises, and may your fatherland ere long enjoy the blessing of peace, and regain its old state of prosperity.

“We remain in the name of the lodge.

“L'ASTER DE L'ORIENT,

“ — Secretary.”

“11th July.

“Bro. —,—Your letter of the 3rd inst. has been received, and the brethren on board informed of its contents. They unanimously agree that it is irregular and impracticable to confer the 2nd and 3rd degree in the manner you suggest, and that the diplomas are useless to us. I therefore respectfully request you to transmit to Bro. — and myself the certificate of the 1st degree, together with the remainder of the money. The diplomas will be forwarded to your address immediately upon the receipt of the certificates. Hoping to receive an early reply, and thanking you and your lodge for your kindness to Bro. — and myself, &c.

“Flushing, July 21st, 1864.

“Bro. —,—Having received your letter of the 11th July, we inform you that when sending back the two diplomas and the authorisation, you may at the same time draw a bill of exchange for £11. We shall then immediately send you the diplomas of the 1st degree. The honour of the lodge we represent does not permit us to act in any other way.

“Receive our fraternal salute,

“In the name of the work-place,

“L'ASTER DE L'ORIENT.”

After which the documents were forwarded through the Consul with a draft for £11, or £5 10s. each. Such a transaction could never have occurred under our Constitution as initiates to be in possession of the certificate of a M.M.; and I am of opinion that the sooner some step is taken to prevent a recurrence of such an evil the better; but while such lasts it behoves every brother to be careful who he admits into his lodge.

I am, Sir, yours obediently,

A. PRATT, P.M. 22 and 382.

REAL POWER.—Wealth, we are told, is power; talent is power, and knowledge is power. But there is a mightier force in the world than either of these—a power which wealth is not rich enough to purchase, nor genius subtle enough to refute, nor knowledge wise enough to overreach, nor authority imposing enough to silence. They all tremble in its presence. It is truth—the really most potent element of social or individual life. Though tossed upon the billows of popular commotion, or cast into the seven-fold furnace of persecution, or trampled into the dust by the iron heel of power, truth is the one indestructible thing in this world that loses in no conflict, suffers from no misusage and abuse, and maintains its vitality and completeness after every assault.

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

MASONIC MEMS.

We are happy to be able to announce that the Duke of Newcastle, Prov. G. Master for Notts, has so far recovered from his severe indisposition, as to be able to leave London for his seat, Clumber Park, where, it is hoped, the climate and quietude may tend to his further recovery.

Bro. Hyde Clarke, D. Prov. G. Master for Turkey, who has taken a very active part in promoting the cultivation of cotton in that country, has been entertained at dinner in Manchester by the Cotton Supply Association. Bro. Clarke, in acknowledging the toast of his health, gave a very encouraging account of the progress of the work to which he has devoted so much attention. The quality of the greater part of the cotton grown in Turkey was still, he said, of an inferior character, but the Sultan's Government "were determined to persevere in their efforts till cotton cultivation in Turkey was placed on a permanent footing, and enabled to sustain competition with the United States and other countries."

BOYS' SCHOOL.

If there is one thing more than another of which Englishmen have cause to be proud, it is of the almost numberless charitable institutions which exist through the length and breadth of the land. Among these, the most important, perhaps, are those in which education is imparted to the rising generation. The Freemasons, who are ever ready to lend a helping hand in the cause of charity, have, in connection with the Craft, an institution which is certainly a glory and an honour to that distinguished body. The Royal Masonic Institution for the Sons of Decayed and Deceased Freemasons is fully deserving of all the support which it receives from the Masonic body. Established as long ago as 1798, it has been the means by which a large number of the sons of deceased and unfortunate Masons have been supplied with the inestimable blessing—a good education—to enable them successfully to fight the battle of life. A few years ago the operations of the Institution were extended, the increased support which it received enabling its conductors to offer the advantages of a home and a school, in which the boys would be maintained, clothed, and educated. With a view still further to extend the benefits of the Institution, the boys are now retained in the school (increased in number to seventy-two) until the age of fifteen years, instead of fourteen as formerly, and power is given to grant any boy on leaving a sum not exceeding £15. A new and commodious school is being erected at Wood Green, with ample provision for the educational and physical requirements of one hundred boys. The Freemasons of Portsmouth have always subscribed liberally towards this Institution, and they have given an additional proof of the interest they feel in the recipients of its advantages by inviting the boys to visit Portsmouth on Tuesday last, when they entertained them with the utmost hospitality. On the arrival of the train at the Landport Railway Station shortly before ten o'clock, the cheerful countenances of the boys, between sixty and seventy in number, was proof sufficient that they anticipated a joyous day. They were accompanied by several gentlemen belonging to the house committee, and some of the teachers, and their healthy and intelligent appearance was generally remarked by the committee and other brethren who had been awaiting their arrival. With great forethought the committee had provided refreshments, which, by the kindness of the railway officials, the boys were permitted to partake of in the first-class refreshment room. Judging from the rapid disappearance of the edibles and drinkables, the long morning ride had sharpened the appetites of the youthful guests, who were all life and excitement. After the commissariat department had sustained a somewhat severe attack, the boys marched in procession to the dockyard, accompanied by several members of the committee, and the brethren from London, and others at a distance. Arrived in the yard they divided into sections and then visited the many objects of interest with which our dockyard abounds, which

afforded them the greatest possible pleasure and delight. At half-past twelve o'clock they left the yard and proceeded to Southsea Common, where, in close proximity to the King's Rooms, a spacious booth was erected, free of charge, by Bro. Hollingsworth, in which the boys were entertained at a sumptuous *dejeuner*. There were also present a large number of Freemasons and ladies; the company numbering altogether about 240. Col. Meehan, W.M. 257, presided, and was supported by Bros. Udall, P.S.G.D., past chairman of the House Committee of the Boys' School, Hopgood, P.S.D., chairman of the House Committee of the Boys' School; Head, P.S.G.D.; S. B. Wilson, P.G.D.; J. R. Stebbing, G.S.D.; Dr. Miller; J. F. Pratt, J.P., &c. The vice-chairs were filled by Bros. J. Baker, W.M. 487, and H. M. Emanuel, W.M. 342. The *dejeuner* was of the most *recherche* character, and was admirably served by Bros. G. Wilkins and H. Cawte. The wines were of the purest vintage, and the catering gave universal satisfaction. After the cloths had been cleared,

The CHAIRMAN said the first toast on public occasions of this kind—at gatherings of loyal subjects and Englishmen and ladies—was that of the Queen. It was a toast that needed no eulogy from him; it came home to the hearts of them all. He gave "The Queen," a pattern to wives, mothers, and daughters, and a bright example to all whose brows were encircled by a Royal diadem. (Cheers.)

The toast was drunk with the greatest enthusiasm, the boys cheering lustily.

The CHAIRMAN said the next toast was one also that required no eulogy from him. When he named the deservedly popular Prince of Wales and his amiable and estimable Princess, and the rest of the Royal Family, he was sure the toast would be drunk with the greatest enthusiasm. He proposed "The Prince and Princess of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family." (Cheers.)

The CHAIRMAN said the next toast was one that would come home to the hearts of Masons in particular; he gave them their esteemed "Most Worshipful Master, the Earl of Zetland," with all the honours. (Loud cheers.)

The CHAIRMAN said he had very great pleasure in proposing the next toast, "The Deputy Grand Master (Earl de Grey and Ripon), the Grand Officers, and the Past Grand Officers of England." (Cheers.)

Bro. W. YOUNG, G.S.B., said he had great pleasure in returning thanks on behalf of the Deputy Grand Master, and the Grand Officers and Past Officers. He could only say that when this meeting was reported to them, they would be delighted to hear that their healths had been drank on such an occasion as this, when they were entertaining the boys of their school. He only wished that every province in England would respond to the calls of charity as Portsmouth did, as he was quite sure that then the difficulty about to be encountered in building the school would be terminated with *éclat*. (Cheers.) He wished to return thanks to the brethren of Portsmouth, and wished that every other province would copy their example. (Cheers.)

The CHAIRMAN said the next toast he had to propose was one which he was sure those who were acquainted with the name of the individual would receive with a great deal of warmth and enthusiasm—it was "The Health of the venerated and esteemed Provincial Grand Master (Sir Lucius Curtis), and his Provincial Grand Officers," with all the honours. (Loud cheers.)

Bro. HEATHER, Prov. G. Treas., in responding, said Sir Lucius Curtis was well-known by all in that province, and even beyond. He had much pleasure in returning thanks, although it was a matter of regret to him that Sir Lucius Curtis was not with them in consequence of his health failing him at present. (Cheers.)

Bro. J. R. STEBBING, S.G.D., said he had very great pleasure in proposing to them to-day the greatest toast which had occupied their attention on this occasion, and that toast was—"Success and Prosperity to the Masonic Charities." Masons were loyal to their sovereign and they were faithful to each other; they were great admirers of that sex so honoured by the poet, who, speaking of nature, said—

"Her 'prentice hand she tried on man,
And then she made the lasses, O!"

(Cheers.) Masons, while they were loyal to their sovereign and faithful to each other, were great admirers of that sex which so largely beautified the meeting to-day, and gave a splendour and a joy to the assembly which could not possibly exist without

their presence. (Cheers.) There had been introduced into Masonic institutions, during the last year or two, an active, benevolent, and vast support from the ladies of England—(cheers)—by the wives, sisters, daughters, and sweethearts of Masons, who thought that they would be doing something worthy of the ancient Craft and adding glory to its other excellences by supporting institutions devoted to objects of benevolence and charity, and which cemented the beauty, the power and perfection of their ancient and honourable institution. (Cheers.) In times gone by, when Masonry consisted in the practice of the arts and sciences, there was, no doubt, the deep bond of learning and the power of knowledge to keep them together. Dating back from the oldest times, they were the men under whose power and skill had risen those great and beautiful specimens of architecture which studded this and other lands. That time had passed away, and knowledge had spread over the world in every direction; and they now had a more bright and beautiful existence in the practice of charity; in the every day exercise of benevolence and kindness one towards each other. (Cheers.) It was not the mere selfish practice of brother helping brother; they gave aid to the widow, and when the father was gone, and when the widow was gone, the children were still dear to the hearts of Freemasons. (Cheers.) They succoured and helped them, and they saw by the assembly of to-day, by the happy countenances of the children, and the numbers assembled, that Masons thought of those who would come after them, and helped those who needed their succour and support when they had none to help them. (Cheers.) There was no institution in England at the present day that had done that which had been done by the Masonic institution for charity. On their great festivals, when they met together to enjoy the pleasure and happiness of each other's company, when the cheerful glass was sent round, and brother united with brother, and old friendships were renewed, they did not forget those who were less cared for than themselves; and this institution, on the occasion of its three festivals, subscribed for the cause of benevolence and charity the princely sum of £10,000. (Cheers.) It was his boast and happiness to belong to such an institution as this. (Cheers.) They had their quaint old ceremonies; their ancient practices; they had their secret—if there was a secret—which was composed of knowing each other, and a vast deal more, of doing good to the world at large. (Cheers.) It was true they had their old customs; but their brightest star—the brightest gem in the Masonic crown—was their Charities. (Cheers.) They not only did good to each other; but those who were dependent on them—the poor brethren, the widow, the son and the daughter of Masons—were cared for on every occasion. (Cheers.) There were in the old Masonic song those beautiful lines—

"No mortal more can the ladies adore,
Than a free and accepted Mason.

And he would tell them how they showed it. They did not show it alone in daily kindness and constant love; in that attention which they always demanded and which they were delighted to render. But they showed it also when their heavenly countenances were withdrawn from them; when they had passed away; when those they had loved had gone to another bourne; they showed it in love to their children—by affording protection to the orphan, assistance to the aged, and in kindness to all they had loved and cherished. (Cheers.) In proposing the toast he would connect with it the name of Bro. Hopgood, the chairman of the Committee of this School, a sound hearted man, a loving brother, who walked the world for the good he could do his fellow creatures. (Cheers.) After making an earnest appeal on behalf of the school, he proposed "Prosperity to the Masonic Charities," and most of all the Boys' School, which was represented so happily and gloriously here to-day. (Loud and long continued cheering.)

Bro. HOPGOOD, F.S.D., in responding, said he had long felt that the Charities of the Masonic Order were among the most worthy of emulation among all the great Charities of the kingdom. (Cheers.) They were, comparatively speaking, but a small body; and they had but little aid from those who did not belong to them. He believed there were few if any here who did not belong to them, and he was bound to acknowledge the aid and assistance of all those ladies who were connected with Masons, who most ably assisted them in their great work. (Cheers.) Nothing could have been more gratifying or more pleasing to the house committee of the Boys' School than to have been present on the occasion, and to have been received

in so kind a manner as they had been received by their brethren of this province. (Cheers.) He must here very properly and fairly say that this was one of the provinces which had rendered them a great deal of assistance, and which had come forward and dealt with them most liberally. He did not think, from what he saw before him, there was any necessity for him to ask for assistance, because he was convinced from the feeling which had been manifested in this province to-day, that everything that could be done would be done to help on the great cause in which they were engaged—the building of a large school-house, and they hoped to receive as many as they could send from their province as well as from others. (Cheers.) Masonry was universal, and in its universality it was desirous of extending the benefits of this school to every province in the kingdom. (Cheers.) The school would cost a great deal of money; he did not come to beg, but he would call upon them to act Masonically—(cheers)—and that was all he would say on the subject. But this brought him to a subject of very great regret, and which he thought they would share with him, which was that Bro. Binckes, the secretary of the institution, a most, indefatigable man, in whom they placed great reliance and great trust, and who was deserving of it, was unfortunately laid on a sick bed through an accident, and his absence was regretted by a great many under that canopy and by those who were more intimately connected with him, and he earnestly wished for his speedy recovery. (Cheers.) Their liberality and kindness brought them here in the way of a treat to the boys that probably some of them would never have again. The pains and labour that had been bestowed by the brethren in conducting the children round the dockyard, and offering an opportunity of seeing that which to their young minds must have been a great and important treat, entitled the brethren to their most grateful thanks. (Cheers.) His desire was to have a strong and lasting connection between the province of Hampshire and the members of their fraternity in London, and he offered them his most grateful thanks for what they had done, with every expectation and reliance on their giving them their support in what might be ultimately required from them. (Cheers.)

Bro. J. BAKER, W.M. 487, briefly proposed "The Railway Company, and the Steam Packet Company," who had kindly placed a steam packet at their disposal. (Cheers.)

Mr. J. F. PRATT, J.P., the Chairman of the Portsmouth and Ryde Steam Packet Company, briefly returned thanks.

Bro. Dr. MILLER proposed "The Health of Bro. H. Hollingsworth," and said that both as a Mason and a man he was highly charitable. He took an active part in supporting the Marines' Orphan School, which, although a national institution, had a local connection. The lively interest he took in this Charity was evidenced by his having given them this splendid tent to meet in this day. He proposed his health, with all the honours. (Cheers.)

Bro. HOLLINGSWORTH briefly returned thanks.

Bro. UDALL said he had great pleasure in proposing a toast which he was sure would be very gratefully received by them. He was sure that the visitors were very much obliged to the chairman, and every person in the tent must have witnessed with delight the manner in which he had performed the duties of the chair. He proposed long life and happiness to him, and he asked the boys to give a hearty burrah, and may he live for ever. (Loud cheers.)

The CHAIRMAN briefly returned thanks, and trusted that this was not the last reunion of the kind that would take place here. (Cheers.)

Bro. STEBBING said he had been requested before the meeting separated to pay a tribute of gratitude to the great exertions of the committee, who had arranged the visit so successfully and provided so largely for the comfort of the visitors. In proposing "The Health of the Committee," he must put in a most prominent position their worshipful and most excellent brother—Bro. Emery. (Cheers.) He was devoted to the cause of charity and benevolence, and was a very worthy and excellent man, and much of the success of to-day was to be attributed to his exertions and the heartiness he threw into everything with which he was connected. (Cheers.) Before he sat down he would remove an impression created by Bro. Hopgood—that this was a demonstration on the part of the Province of Hampshire. This was not so; it was a demonstration on the part of his native town—of Portsmouth. (Cheers.) Rising like a giant she lifted the whole weight herself. She done so successfully, to her honour; and all honour to her on every occasion. He was glad

to know that there was so excellent a man as Bro. Emery to set a good example on every occasion. He gave his health with three times three. (Loud cheers.)

Bro. EMERY, W.M. 928, said on behalf of the committee, with whom they had been kind enough to couple his name, he begged to return thanks for the manner in which the toast had been drunk. He assured them that individually this was indeed a proud day to think that the boys of the charity which he earliest identified himself with, should be their guests on this occasion. He hoped the result would be to show the ladies of Freemasons and the public generally that Freemasons had other objects in view besides the promotion of social enjoyment; that they had a higher object in view, that they took care of those who were left in their charge, and endeavoured to bring them up in the steps of those who had gone before. (Cheers.) Not only were the boys so brought up, but the girls also, and a splendid building was now being reared for their accommodation, and he appealed to the company to give something towards this stately and superb edifice. He referred to the existence of the asylum for the aged and decayed, and said they had something more in view than to communicate secret signs or indulge in social festivities. Without the indefatigable committee he should not have been able to bring this affair to such an issue, and he divided the meed of praise with them, and therefore on behalf of himself and the committee he thanked them. (Cheers.)

The CHAIRMAN said the last toast on his list, though not the east, was "The Ladies." (Cheers.) When he looked around and reviewed the kindly glances that beamed from every eye at the mention of the ladies, the toast would meet with a very warm reception.

"Breathes there a man with soul so dead,
Who never to himself hath said,
There is a charm in woman's eye,
A language in her tear,
A spell in every sacred sigh;
To man, to virtue dear."

—(Cheers.) He proposed "The Ladies," the first in every good work, the ladies in general, and those in particular who had graced the festivities of this day with their presence. (Cheers.)

Bro. YOUNG having gracefully acknowledged the compliment on behalf of the fair sex,

The lists of toasts having been exhausted, the company left the tent. During the proceedings the juvenile band of the St. Vincent played some selections in the vicinity, and afterwards on the pier, where the company promenaded. Later in the afternoon the boys and a portion of the company embarked on board the steam-packet *Her Majesty*, which had been kindly lent by the company for the occasion, and proceeded up the harbour to give the boys an opportunity of inspecting the ships of war—which afforded them intense gratification. The band of the 5th Hants Rifles was on board, and played several favourite pieces. Both before and after their return the boys were supplied with tea and other refreshments, and shortly before seven o'clock they started for the station, accompanied by the committee and others. They left the station at ten minutes past seven, after having had a most delightful treat. The committee comprised the following gentlemen, to whom great praise is due for their exertions in bringing the affair to such a successful issue:—Bro. Col. Meehan, president, Bro. Emery, secretary (who is entitled to special thanks for his untiring energy in the good work), Bros. E. M. Wells, T. Batchelor, H. M. Emanuel, Hollingsworth, J. R. Barnes, W. H. Ford, T. Cousins, J. Baker, Redward, Edmonds, Furnell, and Hill.—*Portsmouth Times*, August 13.

[With the usual courtesy of the Committee of the Boys' School, all notice of the intended visit was kept from us, or an original report would have appeared last week.—Ed. F. M. and M. M.]

METROPOLITAN.

MERCHANT NAVY LODGE (No. 781).—This prosperous lodge held its usual monthly meeting on Thursday, August 11th, at the Jamaica Tavern, West India Docks. The business of the evening was one passing and three raisings. The W.M. presided, assisted by a large number of P.M.'s and his officers. Two of the candidates for raising being visitors expressed a wish to have this degree conferred on them by Bro. F. Walters, P.M. Mount Lebanon Lodge (No. 73), and on asking the W.M.

to grant their request, he in the kindest manner allowed them this privilege. Accordingly Bro. F. Walters, P.M., then took the chair, and in an able manner raised Bros. B. Wickman, Mount Lebanon, 73, and T. Parish, Humber, 57, (whom he had during his office as W.M. previously passed to the degree of a Fellow Craft) to the sublime degree of Master Masons. It was unanimously agreed to hold a summer festival, and the arrangements were left to be made by a committee of P.M.'s of the lodge. Before closing the lodge, Bro. F. Walters, P.M., expressed his sincere thanks to the W.M. and brethren for their kindness and courtesy in allowing him the honour and privilege of raising his two friends to the Master Mason's degree. As it was impossible for him to stay and join them at the festive board, he felt he would be wanting in gratitude if he did not take that opportunity of expressing to them how sincerely both he and the two newly-raised Master Masons were for the brotherly treatment they had received from them. He had come a stranger amongst them, and he must certainly say that in all his nine years experience of visiting brethren and lodges in England, Ireland, Scotland, and Wales, he never yet received greater kindness or more fraternal welcome than he had from the W.M., P.M.'s, and members of the Merchant Navy Lodge. He could assure them if any of the members would honour him by visiting the lodges—73, 147, and 871—of which he was a member, he would feel it a pleasure to introduce them as his visitors. If ever an occasion should occur where any of their members might have occasion to be passed or raised in a lodge of which he was a member, he would use his endeavours to get their W.M. or P.M. shown that measure of kindness and courtesy which had just been shown to him. There were at least a dozen visitors, besides a good muster of the members.

PROVINCIAL.

NORFOLK.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

The Provincial Grand Lodge for the Province of Norfolk was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Norwich, on Friday, August 12. There was a good attendance of both city and country lodges. The Prov. G.M., Bro. Benjamin Bond Cabbell, despite his very advanced age, was present on this occasion, and went through the duties of his high office—both in lodge and at the banquet which subsequently took place—in the most efficient manner. Among those by whom he was supported were—Bros. the Hon. F. Walpole, Past Commander of the Knights Templar Encampment, of which he was the founder; Sir H. Stracey, *Bart.*, P. Prov. S.G.W.; W. Leeds Fox, Prov. G. Sec.; Rev.—Cholmeley, Prov. G. Chap.; Revs. S. Tatlow, Hodgson, and Coleby, P. Prov. G. Chaps.; W. Wright, P. Prov. S.G.W.; J. Barwell, Prov. G. Treas.; J. C. Smith, P. Prov. J.G.W.; Major Penrice, Prov. G. Reg.; W. S. Boulton, Prov. S.G.D.; W. Norman, Prov. G. Org.; — Adams, Prov. G. Tyler; F. Colsey, P.M., Prov. G. Steward; J. Marshall, P. Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; H. J. Mason, W.M. Soudes Lodge, Dereham; G. E. Simpson, P.M. Siucery; J. Boyce, W.M. Perseverance; J. Calver, W.M. Faithful; J. W. Taylor, W.M. Cabbell; A. F. Morgan, W.M. Social; G. F. Garnham, W.M. Beccles; P. Back, W.M.; G. C. Stevens, H. B. Wolsey, R. Whitwell, R. Thorns, P.M.'s; G. Loftus, &c.

The following were then installed as Provincial Grand Officers for the ensuing year:—

Bro. W. Leeds Fox.....	D. Prov. G.M.
" G. Wilkinson	Prov. S.G.W.
" T. M. Kendall.....	" J.G.W.
" Rev. — Cholmeley.....	" G. Chap.
" Major Penrice.....	" G. Reg.
" A. F. Morgau	" G. Sec.
" W. S. Boulton.....	" S.G.D.
" R. T. Culley	" J.G.D.
" R. Thorns	" G. Supt. of Works.
" A. R. Miller	" G. Dir. of Cers.
" J. W. Taylor	" G. Assist. Dir. of Cers.
" P. Back	" G. Sword Bearer.
" W. Norman.....	" G. Org.
" J. Calver	" G. Purst.
" — Adams	" G. Tyler.
" G. C. Stevens	" G. Stewards.
" G. Knox	
" H. B. Wolsey	
" R. Whitwell	

Bro. W. Leeds Fox, who for many years held the office of Prov. G. Sec., received the appointment of Deputy Provincial Grand Master, an office that has long been held in abeyance, and the revival of which on the present occasion was somewhat unexpected.

A sum of £10 was voted to Bro. R. Gidney, Secretary to Lodge Perseverance; £21 was voted as a contribution towards the Girls' School; and £10 10s. towards the Boys' School.

At the termination of the lodge business the brethren formed in procession and attended Divine service at St. Peter's Church, where a very excellent sermon was preached by the Prov. G. Chaplain, and a collection was made in behalf of the Norwich Benevolent Association for the Relief of Decayed Tradesmen, their Widows, and Orphans.

The brethren on leaving church reformed in procession and returned to the Freemasons' Hall where they sat down to a very excellent banquet, provided by Bro. Woods, whose catering elicited the highest encomiums from the brethren who partook of it. The Prov. G. Master occupied the chair, and was supported at the cross table by Bros. Sir H. Stracey, *Bart.*; W. Leeds Fox, Revs. Chomeley, S. Tatlow, Hodgson, Coleby; J. Barwell, A. F. Morgan, D. Dalrymple, &c.

On the removal of the cloth, "The Health of the Queen," was proposed by the Prov. G. MASTER, and drunk with the greatest enthusiasm.

In proposing "The Health of the Prince and Princess of Wales," the PROV. G. MASTER said—His Royal Highness was the grandson of a most brilliant example of Freemasonry, the late Duke of Cambridge, who took a very warm interest in the Order, and who carried out the principles of Freemasonry in private life as well as in those public matters in which he was engaged, and in which, by every means in his power, he endeavoured to promote that which was good. (Hear, hear, and applause.) He trusted the time was not far distant when the Prince of Wales might confer the great sanction of his name on the Order by becoming himself a member of that body. (Cheers.) By so doing His Royal Highness would not only be conferring a great benefit on the Order, but the step would be equally conducive to his own happiness and welfare and to the progress of the principles of Masonry, not only within the limits of our own land, but in every quarter of the globe. (Cheers.)

The PROV. G. MASTER, in proposing "The Health of the Earl of Zetland, Grand Master of England," observed that Masonry had lost none of its power under the presidency of that distinguished nobleman. (Drunk with honours.)

The D. PROV. G. MASTER proposed "The Health of the Earl de Grey and Ripon, the Deputy Grand Master of England, and the Officers of the Grand Lodge." (Drunk with honours.)

Bro. Sir HENRY STRACEY, who rose amid loud and long continued cheers, said he could not but feel that the brethren present had anticipated the toast for which they had given so handsome a demonstration. Although they had so handsomely received him, he could not suppose that the very great compliment they had just paid was intended for himself. ("Yes, yes.") He was sure it must be intended to apply to the toast they had anticipated, and he was about to give, which was "The Health of their excellent and esteemed Provincial Grand Master." (Loud and prolonged cheering.) He was sure when he mentioned the Provincial Grand Master, the toast would be received with the acclamation he had just heard. He felt, however, a little hesitation in speaking on this subject, because in a recent conversation with a most intimate and valued friend, that friend had said to him, "Why do you make enemies by your style of speaking?" He could not help feeling that, in all probability, his friend was right. His friend added, "It is from your truthfulness of speaking that you make enemies. You call a spade a spade." Well, he would plead guilty: he knew he did; but in what he was about to say, he felt certain that its truthfulness would be no impediment, and that they would all coincide with him when he stated that their Provincial Grand Master was a most excellent one. (Cheers.) Might he take the liberty of asking, did the Provincial Grand Master, or did he not preserve the dignity of his high office? (Cheers.) Did he or did he not give the strictest attention to the duties of that office? (Cheers.) Above all, if he had sins, and who had not, would not his charity cover a multitude of those sins? (Loud cheers.) There were charities founded by their excellent Provincial Grand Master's instrumentality—charities arising from the Order of which he was so noble an example. There were numerous Charities in London and the neighbour-

hood, with which all present were doubtless acquainted; and not only were there these, but there were others, with which his good name was connected—Charities like the one that had been so strongly recommended to them that day in lodge, and to which they had given their assistance. (Hear, hear.) He had ever shown that disposition for charity which had made him at the age he had attained, so respected by them all. (Cheers.) They all congratulated him on the green old age to which he had arrived. Might he for many years enjoy and preserve that green old age, and when the time came for the Almighty to require his presence, might he be surrounded by troops of friends, and he (Sir H. Stracey) was convinced that none would regret his loss more than the Freemasons of the province over which he so worthily presided. (Loud and continued cheers.)

The PROV. G. MASTER, who rose amid prolonged cheers, said he rose with no ordinary feelings to state what he was about to say, and it was no mere common expression when he said he deeply felt the way in which Bro. Sir Henry Stracey had proposed his health, and the very kind way in which the brethren present had received it. He had now been a member of the Craft for nearly half a century. (Hear, hear, and cheers.) He had attempted, as far as his humble means had enabled him to do, and so far, also, as his limited powers permitted, to promote every institution connected with the Order, for the advancement or relief of those members who were unfortunate, and for bringing up the children of these unfortunate members, and putting them in the way of obtaining a respectable rank in life, such as had been held by their parents before misfortune came upon them, and the children were left unprotected. He had great pleasure in saying that Masons had succeeded in raising establishments, which, if not fully commensurate with their wants, were at least of very great advantage in the relief of the wants that were entailed on the Order. (Hear, hear.) He assured his brethren he felt deeply indebted to them for the kind assistance they had given him in the promotion of those institutions which were an honour and credit to the Order, and so long as he was allowed to remain in this world, so long should he be anxious to do all in his power to promote and carry out the great principles of the Order, convinced that by so doing he should not only be maintaining the honour of the Order, but conferring a benefit on our countrymen, not only within the limits of our own shores, but all the surplus population that owed its existence to this country. (Cheers.)

The PROV. G. MASTER next proposed "The Health of the Rev. Chaplain," remarking that they must all feel the great honour conferred upon them by their reverend brethren who condescended to visit their humble board, and he hoped that when they returned they carried out to the world at large a full declaration that whatever they saw here met their full approbation, and that they considered, as far as they were enabled to form an opinion, that the principles they professed without the limits of their own fraternity were such as they had no hesitation in carrying out, as it was their sacred duty to do, as conducive to that high conduct and integrity which were the honour of every man in the fraternity. (Drunk with honours.)

The PROV. G. CHAPLAIN, in responding, objected to the term condescension as applied by the Provincial Grand Master, to the visits of himself and clerical brethren on these occasions. This was not his feeling, nor did he think it that of any of his reverend brethren. God forbid they should enjoy anything if they thought they were above it. He thought it their duty to give countenance, as far as they possibly could, to anything that had for its object the encouragement of true Christian principles—of love to God and man. (Hear, hear.) He regarded it as no slight privilege to be permitted to address them on this occasion, and to have been permitted so to do on a former occasion also. He assured them that if he did not truly and thoroughly believe what he put forth in his sermons he would not a day longer remain a Freemason. He could not but look upon Freemasonry in a far higher light than perhaps many were accustomed to do—higher than he used to do during the first five or six years he was a Mason. This was since what he had learnt from a sincere friend, an honest Mason, who had travelled much in foreign countries and was deeply conversant with the oldest language in the world—that language from which so many Masonic words were taken—the Hebrew. He was convinced from what he had thus learnt that Freemasonry was more ancient than many were at first disposed to allow. He could, by quoting the words of a reverend friend, who was both

a Jew and a Mason—though that ought to be done in a closed lodge—show how intimately was Masonry connected, not only with Christianity, but with a religion far more ancient. Referring to the sneering manner in which some persons alluded to Masonry as a benevolent or benefit society, he said it was not just to put Masonry on a par with a purely benevolent society. (Hear, hear.) It was not in the sense of the word intended by the objectors a purely benevolent society, for not above one in a hundred Freemasons ever came on the Benevolent Fund at all—(hear, hear)—and when they looked on the princes and peers, nobles, lords, and earls who were members of the fraternity—not that the door was not always ready to be opened for the poorest man in the world—they could not call Masonry in the common acceptance of the word a benevolent society. (Hear, hear.) And yet in another sense they were a most truly benevolent society, and their benevolence was not only wordly benevolence, but godly benevolence, for if there was a society in the world that would lead man from his lodge in this world to look up to the lodge above it was Freemasonry. (Cheers.) After an allusion to the precepts taught among the fraternity, the rev. chaplain stated his willingness to acquiesce in the request made to him to allow his sermon of that day to be published. (Applause.)

The PROV. G. MASTER next proposed "The Health of the Officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge." He said when he was first appointed, by the kindness of Lord Zetland, to the office of Provincial Grand Master, he fully intended at the time to have appointed an old member and a most distinguished brother of the Order, who had filled the office of Grand Secretary under the late Lord Suffield, the late Provincial Grand Master, to the office of Deputy Provincial Grand Master. He now found that that brother had in a certain degree expressed himself anxious to retire from the onerous duties of office, and that he had, as it were, already to a certain extent retired. He considered the time had now arrived when to appoint a Deputy Provincial Grand Master, and in making the appointment he had this day made he hoped he had made one that met with the full approbation of the brethren. (Hear, hear, and cheers.) Bro. Fox had for a period of ten years performed the arduous duties of Provincial Grand Secretary, he (the Prov. G.M.) hoped with the full approbation of every Mason in the province. (Hear, hear.) He had acted with no party feeling, but had endeavoured throughout to carry out, conscientiously and honestly, those principles that were the distinguished ornaments of the Order. The Prov. G.M. concluded by coupling with the toast the name of the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Bro. W. Leeds Fox. (Drunk with honours.)

The D. PROV. G. MASTER, in responding, briefly thanked the brethren on behalf of his brother officers, congratulated the brethren on the selection of officers for the year, for he believed they were one and all enthusiastic admirers of the Order, and were all eager and willing to do their duty in the positions to which they had been called. With regard to himself, he had to thank the Provincial Grand Master and all the brethren of the province for the kindness shown to him during the time he had had the honour of filling the arduous post of Provincial Grand Secretary. That it was an arduous one he must say, without their imagining him to be guilty of egotism. It was an arduous post, and, so far as its great duties were concerned, he certainly was, to a great extent, glad to see them put on the shoulders of one who, he was sure, would do his duty to the province. (Hear, hear.) He had no doubt he had frequently erred, but if so, the error had been with the head and not with the heart. His wish had been to see Masonry flourish in the province, and it was right that in resigning his secretaryship he should state, that in the year 1856, when the present Grand Master was installed, there were 120 Masons who were members in this province; but since then Freemasonry had gone on not by spasmodic starts, but in a progressive way, which they could depend upon more, until now there were 450 members, and the progress still continued. (Cheers.) This was a matter they could congratulate themselves on, and it certainly was a great pleasure to him that during the time he had been Secretary, there was such a progress in the Craft. (Hear, hear.) He thanked the Grand Master most heartily for the honour conferred upon him this day—an honour quite unexpected, though the Provincial Grand Master had frequently asked him to accept it; but until last night he had not known it was the Grand Master's full determination to give him the appointment. As the Grand Master had then wished him to accept it, he thought he should not be doing his duty either to the Grand Master or to the members throughout the province, if he had not accepted it. At the same time, he knew that

the duties that would fall upon him would be of a somewhat arduous character, although different from the secretaryship; but his object was the good of the Craft. He should not find fault where no fault was to be found. He did not wish to be thought officious or disagreeable; but, on the other hand, he hoped they would remember when he had the honour to come among his brethren in Norwich officially during the winter, his object was, as it would still be, to promote that harmony and uniformity of working, and that good feeling that should ever subsist among Masons. (Hear, hear.) He should continue to do this, without fear, favour, or affection, at the same time hoping to gain the love and good-will of all. (Applause.) If he did this, he should be satisfied and think himself amply rewarded for all the duties he had performed as Provincial Grand Secretary. (Cheers.)

The PROV. G. MASTER proposed "The Health of the Past Officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge," which he coupled with the name of Bro. Sir Henry Stracey. (Drunk with honours.)

BRO. SIR HENRY STRACEY briefly responded, and proposed "The Health of the Visitors," which he coupled with the name of Bro. Adams, on whose abilities and zeal in the Craft he bestowed the highest eulogium. He said it was delightful on these occasions to meet with men whom they knew to be free from the animosities and jealousies of political life. They met, as they had that morning been told in the second lesson, as equals, because they were there told not to be respecters of persons. (Hear, hear.) This fine sentiment they all felt to be embodied in the principles of Masonry; they all felt as one with each other, and knew that what was said amongst themselves was said in confidence and good fellowship, and that he who betrayed their confidence was unworthy of being a member of the Craft. (Hear, hear.) He believed that Freemasonry was connected with revelation, that it was truly religious and Christian-like, and that in Masonry there was that allowance made for the faults of others which was not always made under different circumstances. (Applause.)

BRO. ADAMS responded.

The PROV. G. MASTER next gave "The Health and Prosperity of the Lodges of the Province," remarking that he had received a very good report of the way in which the work of the different lodges was performed. It was highly satisfactory to him to learn that the lodge work was done in a very perfect and effectual way. He understood there was a wish to have a Masonic library in Norwich, a measure which he highly approved, and to which he should be most happy to give every support in his power. (Cheers.) He also understood that a communication was needed between two of the rooms in the hall, and he should have pleasure in directing this to be done. (Cheers.) He coupled with the toast the name of Bro. Back. (Cheers.)

BRO. BACK briefly responded.

The PROV. G. MASTER next proposed "The Charities of the Order," and in doing so he took occasion to make an appeal on behalf of the Boys' School, stating that they were now building a school capable of receiving upwards of 100 at a cost of £20,000. The building was on freehold ground, purchased four or five years since. He had belonged to each of the Charities (the Schools, and the Institutions for Decayed Masons and their Widows) for nearly fifty years, and had been their treasurer for more than a quarter of a century, and, consequently, had taken the greatest interest in them. At the last anniversary of the Boys' School they had received £3,500, and the year before they received upwards of £4,000; but they were still short of the sum required to complete the work. He heard from the Secretary that he had not had for a considerable time the honour of recording any brother of the province as a steward in connection with the Boys' School, and he trusted that the brethren would enable him to report that some half-dozen or a dozen brethren would agree to be stewards on the next occasion, which would be on the second Wednesday in March. The building would cost between £20,000 and £25,000, and as there were not sufficient funds to complete it they required the support of the brethren at large. The Prov. G. Master concluded by proposing "The Health of the Ladies," and the toast having been responded to by Bro. Morgan, the Prov. G. Sec., the proceedings were brought to a close.

THERE are many things that are thorns to our hearts until we have attained them, and envenomed arrows when we have.

CHINA.

SHANGHAI.

A correspondent writing as the English mail of the 21st. ult. closed, forwards us some interesting news respecting a newly-formed lodge of English Masons. He says,—The Tuscan Lodge, lately formed under the auspices of some worthy and interested brethren of the Northern Lodge of China (No. 570), having received a dispensation from the Provincial Grand Master of British Masons in China, the Hon. William Thomas Mercer, prior to the receipt of their charter from the Grand Lodge of England, had their inauguration meeting at the Masonic Hall, at 9 p.m., Saturday, 18th June, which was very well attended. Amongst the brethren present were Bros. Rawson, P. Prov. G.M.; the W. Masters of the Northern Lodge of China (No. 570), and the Royal Sussex (No. 501), the former acting as Installing Master; Dunlop, Underwood, Donaldson, Birdseye, P.M.'s; and a numerous attendance of other brother. The large room looked in all respects well furnished, the chairs all occupied by Past Masters, and a very handsome and powerful organ lent its tones to the solemnities of the evening. The ceremonies being proceeded with, Bro. A. R. Tilby, P.S.W. of the Northern Lodge of China, was installed first W.M., and Bros. Henry A. Lidford and Rob. A. Jamieson as first Wardens, J. Jacques Sec. and Treas. &c.; and there is no doubt but that, under the able management of its worthy Master and his officers, the career of this new lodge will be *equally successful and benevolent as that of its sister lodges in China.*

The chief mover in its formation, Bro. Connellius Thorne, P.M., late of the Northern Lodge of China, and now in England, was unanimously chosen as its first honorary member, and Bros. Rawson, P. Prov. G.M., and Gould, W.M., were also placed on that list.

This new lodge is the fourth now working in Shanghai, and a charter is on its way out from the Grand Lodge of Scotland for a Scotch lodge, to be called the Cosmopolitan, now only awaiting the charter to commence.

This speaks well for Masonry in China, and if it increases thus much longer, a Deputy Provincial Grand Lodge will be required for Northern China.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

THE OXFORD MUSIC HALL.

Among the minor classes of amusements in the metropolis may be mentioned the Music Halls, which have of late years become quite an "institution," competing successfully for the public patronage with the smaller theatres. They have been somewhat appropriately termed "opera houses for the million," on account of musical entertainments forming the principal portion of the business. Of these, the Oxford has decidedly taken and maintained the lead, so far as its purely musical quality may be considered. Mr. Morton, the proprietor, always provides one or more "selections" from the popular operas of the day, which are rendered on the stage by a company of some thirty performers. In no other place can such productions be heard nightly with such gratification as at the Oxford. Of course, the special lyric establishments are always considered excepted. The musical director, Mr. Jonghman, is a gentleman of acknowledged ability in such matters, and the careful training shown by his chorus on the stage, seem to fully justify the encomiums awarded him. It may not, perhaps, be generally known, that the "rehearsals" bestowed upon these "selections" are second only in importance and exactitude to those of the Royal Opera itself. We have been assured that from three to five weeks are not unfrequently consumed in preparing a "selection"

for public representation, and that at each rehearsal "everybody," to use a theatrical expression, is bound to be in attendance under the fear of the usual pains and penalties.

At present the principal piece of the programme is a "selection" of Sir Henry Bishop's music to Shakespeare's comedy of "The Two Gentlemen of Verona," which is listened to with great pleasure by a most appreciative audience, who are comfortably seated on broad, well-cushioned chairs, and seem perfectly at their ease. There is also a large comic element in ample provision. Mr. W. Randall, who in natural voice and gesture, so resembles the late Mr. Robson when that actor was the genius of the Olympic, is called "Robson's double." He adopts the "patter style" of comic vocalisation, and is always received with the heartiest and homeliest applause; he seems to fall ever fresh upon his hearers. The next in the order of the evening is that wonderful combination of fun, drollery, and satire, Mr. Unsworth, who in his celebrated stump speech, criticizes men, manners, and things, from the highest to the lowest—political, social, and moral—in a manner that calls forth unbounded admiration. There is one paragraph in the stump speech which the audience cheer most lustily whenever it is heard. After giving a burlesque history of the late debate on the recent Conference, the speaker exclaims, "Go it Pam, go it Dizzy. But they'll have to go it a long time before they'll make old Pam dizzy!" This expression calls forth reiterated cheering from all parts of the building. Mr. Unsworth's successor is Mr. Eugene, who dresses up in the greatest dramatic nicety, first, as a negress "star" of the opera, and afterwards as a leading *danseuse*—so blends the burlesque with the sentimental that the greatest doubts, generally accompanied by small wagers, are made respecting both the sex and the ethnological character of the artiste. There is also, in the comic department an infantile performer, under the name of "Miss Nelly Power," whose character singing commands the praise and sympathy of the public in a remarkable degree. This child, for she can scarcely be more than twelve or thirteen years of age, has already acquired a large amount of stage practice known as "by-play," and sings and acts Irish love-songs, and so forth, in a way that provokes a large amount of laughter, which is greatly increased by the oddity of the contrast between the years of the singer and the character she is portraying. Dancing is added to her other attractions, and she is rapidly making a reputation for future years.

A great many other varieties fill up the evening, and the very superior quality of both artists and audience conjoin to make a night at the Oxford, for highly respectable people, one of the most agreeable diversities of unexceptionable London amusements.

ANNIVERSARY OF THE PRINCE CONSORT'S BIRTHDAY.

By command of her Majesty the Council of the Royal Horticultural Society have directed that their gardens shall be opened freely to the public on August 26, 1-64, the anniversary of the birthday of his Royal Highness the Prince Consort, the founder of the gardens. The council have issued the following statement for the guidance of the public:—"There will be entrances to the gardens at the east in Exhibition-road, west in Prince Albert's-road, and south in the Exhibition-road. The entrances will be opened at ten and closed at six o'clock. There are about thirty-six acres of ground and ample space for all visitors. No tickets will be issued. The police will instruct visitors as to the several exits from the ground. The conservatory, orchard houses, the arcades, and the maze, will all be opened. The cascades and Minton's fountain will play. The Old Hundredth Psalm, a hymn composed by the Prince Consort, and 'God save the Queen,' will be sung by the visitors. The singing will take place on the north or upper terrace in front of the conservatory. 'God save the Queen' will be sung at six o'clock. Bands will be stationed in several parts of the gardens, and will perform at intervals during the day. Omnibuses pass the gardens. Steamers land passengers at Cadogan-pier, Chelsea, and there is a railway station in the Fulham-road, both places being about a mile from the gardens. Clubs, schools, &c., may be accompanied by their banners and bands. Refreshments will be sold at moderate rates, or visitors may bring their own. The south arcades at the lower end of the garden, as in the Exhibition of 1862, and either of the annexes, may be used for the refreshments; but visitors are requested not to use the flower garden as a place for refreshments."

THE WEEK.

THE COURT.—The Queen, the Prince and the Princess of Hesse, with the junior members of the Royal Family, continue at Osborne.

GENERAL HOME NEWS.—The health of London, we are glad to perceive, has greatly improved, the deaths last week having fallen 162 below the numbers reported in the week previous. The mortality, however, is still considerably above the ten years' average, which is 1,868, while the actual deaths reported last week were 1,433. The principal causes of death were measles and diarrhoea, and their principal ravages were among young children. The births amounted to 1,962, which was about 180 above the general average.—It is now reported that Lord Wodehouse will succeed Lord Carlisle as Irish Viceroy.—Mr. T. B. Western, of Rivenhall, Essex, father of the member for Maldon, has been created a baronet.—A Cork contemporary states that the emigration from Ireland to the United States, has almost ceased.—As a landing place for the Atlantic Telegraph Cable, Heart's Content, Trinity Bay, has been selected. This is one of the best harbours in Newfoundland, and ships as large as the *Great Eastern* can anchor within a mile of the station.—An important modification in the regulations for the transmission, through the Post-office, of patterns and samples of merchandise, is announced in a notice just issued by the Postmaster-General. On and after the 1st of next month, the scale of charges will be largely reduced, and the rule prohibiting certain articles from being sent through the Post-office, will be "so far relaxed as to permit the transmission of scissors, knives, razors, forks, steel pens, nails, keys, watch machinery, metal tubing, pieces of metal or ore, and such like, as samples, provided that they be packed and guarded in so secure a manner as to afford complete protection to the contents of the mail bags and the officers of the Post-office, while at the same time the samples may be easily examined, and provided also that such samples as might be in themselves of intrinsic value, are rendered unsaleable by being slightly damaged before they are posted." These modifications apply only to the United Kingdom—the regulations as regards the colonies and foreign countries remaining as before.—At the monthly meeting of the Central Executive Relief Committee, a large amount of most valuable and interesting information was given by Mr. Maclure respecting the condition of the cotton manufacturing districts. During the past month there has been a reduction of 15,051 in the number of persons relieved, whilst the reduction since the commencement of the year has been close upon 100,000. The average pressure of pauperism has now fallen to 3.9 per cent., and this being the case, it has been decided that in all unions in which the pauperism does not exceed 5 per cent., the grants of the Committee shall be confined to the relief of persons who are not in receipt of aid from the rates. The Committee holds a balance of £129,000. Mr. Purdy's weekly return shows that last week there was a net decrease of 480 in the number of persons receiving parochial relief in the 21 unions embraced in the report. The unions of Ashton, Blackburn, Bury, Chorlton, Glossop, and Todmorden experienced an increase of pauperism amounting in the whole to 360—an unfavourable change, which is redressed by a total decrease of 840 in the remaining unions. There were last week 18,203 adults on the relief list, or 174 fewer than in the preceding week. The sum expended in out-door relief was £4,742, or only about one half the outlay in the corresponding week of last year.—On Tuesday, the most important of all the many important experiments at Shoeburyness took place. The 600-pounder

gun was fired against a floating target made on the principle of the *Warrior*. It was intended to fire at a range of 2,000 yards, but with a view to secure accuracy, the firing took place at 500 yards. The charge of powder, however, if increased in certain proportions, would represent the same effects at 2,000 yards. The shell that struck the target practically demolished it, and would have sunk any ship it might take effect upon. It was the universal opinion that this 600-pounder gun will sink any iron-clad ship that could be built. There is no country but England that has a 600-pounder, and we have only this one at present, but we are building more.—Mrs. Yelverton, or Miss Longworth, is the pursuer in another action for libel which will be tried before the Scottish Court of Session. The defendants in the present case are the proprietors of the *Saturday Review*, and the damages are laid at £3,000. The libel complained of formed part of an article on the decision of the House of Lords, in which our contemporary spoke in very uncomplimentary terms of the lady, and described her as "out of keeping with society both as it is and as it ought to be," and as "an adventuress launched into the world nobody knows how, with a previous history that has never been told." The defendants have not a Scotch domicile, but in order to found jurisdiction, as it is called, moneys due to the *Saturday Review* by several Edinburgh publishers have been attached.—Mr. Lindsay addressed a meeting of his constituents at Sunderland on Monday night, and after expounding his views on the American war, and other questions, received an almost unanimous vote of confidence. It is hardly necessary to remind our readers that the honourable gentleman has been a consistent advocate of the recognition of the Southern States.—Among the meetings of Volunteer regiments, on Saturday, was a prize shooting match of the St. George's Rifles, when a number of valuable prizes were awarded. The 7th Surrey Rifles, under their commanding officer, Major Beresford, were inspected by Colonel Ibbetson, who, while he pointed out some defects in their practice, gave high praise to their general efficiency. Great regret was expressed at the unavoidable absence of Colonel McMurdo, who had always hitherto inspected the corps, and it was stated that the gallant officer intended to resign his appointment as inspector-general of the volunteers at the end of the year.—A dinner was given to the Lords of the Admiralty and the officers of the Channel fleet, lying at Queenstown, by the Mayor and citizens of Cork last week. There was a brilliant assemblage present. Some amusing attempts were made to extract a promise from the Duke of Somerset on the subject of a Government dock to be constructed at Queenstown, but his grace refused to commit himself, and reminded the meeting that the harbours which had no Government docks, Liverpool and Glasgow, were more prosperous than Portsmouth and Plymouth that possessed them, and urged the people to rely on their own exertions rather than on Government aid.—We regret to announce the death of Mr. Robson, the well-known actor and joint lessee of the Olympic Theatre, which took place late on Thursday, the 4th inst. Mr. Robson has been in bad health for some time past.—The colliers' strike in East Worcestershire has come to an end, the men, as we are informed, having found themselves obliged to "go in" upon the masters' terms.—The Liverpool papers contain a narrative of fearful sufferings endured by the passengers and crew of a Liverpool vessel, the *All Serene*, that was capsized in a gale on her voyage from the Sandwich Islands to Sydney. Most of those on board took refuge in the chains, where they managed to make a raft or punt, to which they committed themselves, and for sixteen days endured terrible sufferings on the open ocean, men dying

every day from want and disease. The survivors landed at last on an island in the Fiji group, where the natives, apparently under missionary influence, treated them kindly.—Belfast is passing through its annual period of party riot and disorder. The disturbances were begun on Monday night week, when a so-called Orange mob burned O'Connell in effigy. This affront to the "Liberator's" memory greatly irritated the Roman Catholics, and the scum of both parties have ever since been "fighting it out" by attacks upon property and skirmishes on a more or less extended scale. In point of fact, the town has, for upwards of a week, been at the mercy of two hostile mobs. Windows have been smashed by the score, and the number of broken heads must be very large. On Friday and Friday night the Roman Catholics attacked three Protestant places of worship, while their opponents "almost destroyed" a nunnery, "wrecked" the office of the St. Patrick Burial Society, and broke the fanlight over the hall door of the Roman Catholic Bishop's house. A large number of arrests have been made. On Sunday night and Monday the rioters set all law at defiance, and damaged property and one another with the wildest ferocity. Firearms were freely used, and some twenty persons are said to have received gunshot wounds. On Monday, the shops and other places of business were closed, and cavalry were moving through the streets, but without preventing collisions between the mobs, as the rioting continued on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday.—At the Leeds Assizes, Joseph Myers was sentenced to death for the murder of wife at Sheffield.—At the Central Criminal Court the woman who thrust her child in a bundle up the chimney in a public house parlour was found guilty, with a recommendation to mercy. The judge sentenced her to death.—A poor woman, who had been deserted by her husband, drowned her three children and herself in the Thames, at Reading, on Wednesday.—Seventy children were last week seized with dangerous symptoms, consequent on eating some poisonous beans which had been thrown away among some rubbish discharged from a vessel just arrived in Liverpool from Africa. The majority of them were taken to the hospital, and one at least has died.—A remarkable trial which has occupied the Court at the Surrey Assizes, at Guildford, for the last three or four days was abruptly brought to a conclusion. The plaintiff sued several gentlemen, the directors of a defunct asphaltum company, for £2,100, the amount he paid for his shares in the company, his plea being that he had been duped into buying them by a fraudulent prospectus, and other fraudulent representations put forth by the directors. At the conclusion of the plaintiff's case a consultation took place, and a compromise was agreed to by which the plaintiff withdrew the imputation of fraud, and the defendants agreed to pay him £2,400, out of which he was to pay this own costs in the suit; and, further, they agreed to indemnify him against any liabilities he might have incurred as a shareholder. Mr. Baron Martin, in dismissing the case, hoped that parties who might wish to purchase shares in joint-stock companies would read a report of the trial before doing so.—A murder on the high seas was investigated before the magistrates at Southampton on Friday, the 5th. A German sailor, Bjornsen, was charged with the murder of the captain of a ship with an English register in June last. The ship left London in the beginning of May for China, and when near Pernambuco, the prisoner, who seems to have had no previous quarrel with any one, fired a pistol first at one of the mates, whom, fortunately, he missed, and then at the captain, whom he shot through the head. He then lowered himself into the life boat, and left the ship, none of the rest of the crew daring to molest him till he had got some distance, when they fired at and sunk the boat, and, taking him out of the water, put

him in irons. A counsel for his defence cast doubts on the right of the ship to carry the English flag, and the case was adjourned to have that point cleared up.—A man named James Cunningham was tried at the Liverpool Assizes, on the charge of himself undertaking service, and engaging others to take service, on board the Confederate steamer *Rappahannock*, then lying at Calais. It appeared that he had engaged engineers and firemen to serve on board a steamer, giving them no hint of the service on which they were about to engage till they were under the Confederate flag. The prisoner was found guilty, but the judge contented himself with binding him in his own recognisances to appear for judgment when called upon. At the same Assizes, two men named Jones and Highatt, merchants and ship-store dealers, were tried before the Lord Chief Justice on the charge of inducing sailors to embark on board the Confederate steamer *Georgia*, which, when in this country, was named the *Japan*. The evidence as to the act of enlistment was ample and conclusive; but a point of law was raised to the effect that the enlistment took place at Brest, and so not within the jurisdiction of this country. The Lord Chief Justice overruled the objection, but consented to reserve it for appeal. The prisoners were found guilty, but sentence was deferred till the legal technicality was settled.—An extraordinary case of attempting to drown an old man took place on Tuesday evening. It appeared some young men who were in debt to a quack doctor invited him to the banks of the Regent's Canal, near the spot of Mr. Briggs's murder, under promise of payment. Instead of doing so they pushed him into the water, and it is said that if assistance had not come he would have been drowned. The prisoners said they only meant to give him a ducking.—A coroner's jury have returned a verdict of wilful murder against a young girl named Haxis, at Upper Clapton. She was delivered of an illegitimate child while alone in her mother's house, and the medical evidence is to the effect that the infant's death was caused by foul means. The prisoner is only nineteen years of age.—An inquest has been held in the Hackney-road, on the death of a little boy who lost his life by eating some poisoned bread and butter. The parents of the child had spread some phosphorus on some buttered bread to poison rats and put it on a shelf, where they were in the habit of putting bread and butter for him to eat. The poor fellow ate the poisoned food, and was instantly enveloped in a sheet of blue flame which issued out of his mouth. He died in great agony. The jury severely censured the gross carelessness of the parents, while they acquitted them of intentional poisoning.—An inquest was held on Friday afternoon on the body of a married woman who was burned to death in consequence of her dress, distended by crinoline, catching fire. The poor woman was alone in the house, employed in her household duties; and though help was afforded by her landlady, every part of her person was scorched by the flame. It was stated that there was another case now in the hospital of burning from the effects of crinoline.—The inquest on the unfortunate Guardsman who was shot at Wimbledon, was concluded on Monday. Several witnesses were examined, including the military officers in charge of the ground. They all agreed that it was contrary to the regulations to fire at any of the targets while the danger signal was flying. Serjeant Roberts, who fired the shot, was called. He declined to make any statement or to call any witnesses, but it was proved by others that he admitted to them he fired the shot. The jury returned a verdict of death by misadventure, and the coroner, after a few words to Serjeant Roberts on the fatal results of his want of caution, discharged him amid general cheering.—An alarming and fatal accident occurred on Tuesday morning at the Camden-road

Station of the North London Railway. As the express train for Fenchurch-street was about to start, at half-past nine the boiler of the engine suddenly exploded, the fragments flying in every direction. Fortunately the train was not in motion at the time of the accident, and it is believed that the personal injury is confined to the stoker, who expired on being conveyed to the hospital.—Some short time ago a woman died in the City workhouse at Bow, where she had been brought in a state of insensibility. It was thought she was drunk, and she was put to bed without being seen by a medical man. In the morning she had a fit and died. The jury returned a verdict of death from natural causes, but censured the matron for not having called in medical aid when the woman was put under her charge.—Another alarming railway accident, though fortunately not attended with fatal consequences, took place at Brighton. The goods station is on a level considerably lower than the main line, and the goods waggons are lowered down an incline by an engine. This process was going on when the weight of the train, which was an unusually heavy one, broke the coupling chain, and the train descended at a pace accelerating every moment, dashed into and through the station, knocked down the outer wall and rushed across the street, where it was stopped by an opposite house, which suffered severely, however, from the collision. Fortunately, the people standing about heard the noise of the descending train, and managed to get out of the way.—An immense conflagration took place at Hull in the course of Tuesday afternoon, by which the premises of several large firms, commission agents, and railway carriers, &c., were burnt to the ground. The premises were stored from basement to top with valuable and, unfortunately, combustible property, among which were 300 bales of cotton, and large quantities of wool, hemp, flax, &c. This loss of property was roughly estimated at £100,000. Some of the merchants were insured.—On Thursday, the 4th, some extensive buildings, situate in a narrow thoroughfare in Southwark, and known as the Borough Saw-mills, fell, choking up the entrances to several houses on the opposite side of the thoroughfare. A number of children were playing below the wall only a few minutes before the accident, but they had been ordered away, and only one was slightly injured. It appears that the interior of the mills had been gutted some time before, and the walls, deprived of their internal supports, were considered dangerous for some time before they fell.—A fire took place on Monday morning in a hemp and jute mill at Bromley, Essex, by which property to the extent of several thousand pounds was destroyed. An express was dispatched to town for the steam fire-engine, but before it could arrive, the fire had attained such a height that no portion of the mill could be saved. The property was insured. There is some fear that the fire was the work of an incendiary.—Some little time ago, the Artesian Sawmills, near Paddington, were burned to the ground, and a labourer on the premises, named Boxhall, was apprehended on suspicion of having wilfully caused the fire. There was, however, no evidence to implicate him in the crime, and he was discharged. A servant girl, named Cooper, only twelve years of age, has since been taken into custody, and examined on the charge of being the incendiary. She was in the mills after Boxhall left, and appears to have been the last person there before the fire broke out.

—FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.—The *fete* of St. Napoleon has been celebrated at Paris with unwonted brilliancy. Amongst the crowds who witnessed it were thousands of wandering foreigners, of whom our own countrymen formed the great majority, who at this holiday season are roaming over the Continent, and for whom a display of fireworks and an illumination such as they

conduct these things in France, prove overpowering attractions. When, therefore, on Monday the Emperor drove down the avenue of the Champs Elysees in the afternoon, there could be no mistaking the throats whence the loud cheers proceeded with which he was greeted on his way. There were the usual presentations at the Tuileries, but the speeches made on the occasion were not sensational. At night the illuminations drew an enormous concourse of people into the streets. Public rejoicings will be continued, on the present occasion, throughout the week, in consequence of the Prince Consort of Spain's visit to Paris.—A great fire broke out at Limoges on Monday evening, and was not extinguished till the following day. Owing to the arrival of the King of Spain, the Emperor was not able to visit the town, but the Empress and the Prince Imperial have each contributed a large sum to relieve the sufferers.—The old Hotel des Postes of Paris, is pronounced inadequate to the increased demands of the postal service, and by a decree which appeared in the *Moniteur*, it appears that a new post-office is to be built. In connection with the new building, other architectural changes or improvements are also decreed.—A French semi-official journal publishes an article in which the writer labours to show that the approaching visit of Don Francisco, Queen Isabella's husband, has no political significance, but is merely a return for that which the Empress Eugenie paid to the Court of the Escorial last year. His Majesty's stay in France will be limited to three or four days only.—The Northern of Spain Railway was opened on Monday last by King Francisco in person. A banquet followed, at which his Majesty presided, supported by some of the great officers of state. San Sebastian welcomed its Royal visitor with enthusiasm.—The Spanish Cabinet shows tokens of a serious fear lest political disturbances should break out in Madrid. Not only have military precautions been taken, and two newspaper editors been sent before courts-martial; but General Prim, a leader of the extreme Progresista party, has been summarily compelled to quit Madrid and take up his abode at Oviedo.—Owing to the unexampled heat which has prevailed in Portugal, as well as in countries more favourably situated further north, the vines and grain crops have sustained much injury. The Portuguese elections have not passed off quietly, and some rioting had occurred in the provinces.—Elated at the triumphs which the great German Powers have achieved over the gallant little state of Denmark, the King of Prussia has ordered the erection of a commemorative column in the large court of the Hotel des Invalides at Berlin. That the remembrance of the deeds of heroism performed by the Prussian hordes in Schleswig may be handed down to all posterity, the cannon and muskets taken from the Danes will be recast for the purpose.—The Prussian Government is about to establish a naval force in the harbour of Kiel, two corvettes and a squadron of gunboats being daily expected there. Several Prussian marine officers are at present engaged in surveying the port. The future of the two Duchies is causing much embarrassment in Germany, but it is expected that some arrangement may be effected during the visit of the King of Prussia to Vienna, which is shortly to take place.—The first consequence of the preliminary treaty of peace signed at Vienna has been a reduction of the Prussian army, all or most of the "reserves" called out for the Danish war having been dismissed by a royal order published at Berlin. The Saxon official journal declares that the preliminary treaty of peace can cede to Austria and Prussia only the rights which the King of Denmark himself possessed, and that therefore the "Federal execution cannot be declared settled." It is probable, however, that the question of the future government of the Duchy of

Schleswig, Holstein, and Lauenburg, will be settled by the Austrian and Prussian Cabinets without much deference to the wishes of the minor States and the German Diet.—The terms of peace just concluded between Denmark and Germany have created much dissatisfaction in the public mind at Copenhagen, and the *Fadreland*, a journal of the highest influence as an exponent of the popular sentiment, attacks the Danish Ministry with great bitterness. It complains of the secrecy with which the negotiations were conducted, and that an arrangement of the preliminaries had been come to without asking the consent of Parliament, and charges the Ministry of Marine with incapacity, the War Department with carelessness, and the generals with ignorance of military affairs. A war so badly conducted, it declares, could only terminate in a disgraceful peace.—A line of telegraph is contemplated over the Holstein territory to this country, and a conference has recently been held between the Federal Commissioners for Holstein and Lauenburg and the Senate of Hamburg on the subject.—A letter received from Marseilles announces that, upon the united representations of the American and English ministers, the Porte has agreed to a further concession in favour of the Christian missions in Turkey, by allowing religious controversy in Protestant books, upon condition, however, that no insult is offered the Koran. The native chiefs who had become converts are to be removed to Karpouth, where it is to be presumed they will be under the protection of the British consul.—Mexican advices by way of New York, state that the Emperor Maximilian had accepted the surrender of Uragua.—The northern provinces of Chili at the last advices were suffering severely from small-pox. In anticipation of any fresh instructions from Spain to the naval force at Peru, the Government of Peru were preparing for an emergency. The insurrection in St. Domingo was believed to be now nearly suppressed.

AMERICA.—The announcement that General Grant had sustained a very severe repulse at Petersburg has been brought to us by the *Europa*, with advices to the 6th inst. We are informed that at daylight on the morning of the 30th ult. the Federals sprang a mine charged with six tons of gunpowder beneath a Confederate earthwork in front of General Burnside's corps. The work, which was armed with six guns, was blown up; and 250 Confederates who occupied it were buried in the ruins. The Federal artillery immediately began firing along the whole line, and a grand assault was made by General Burnside's corps. The ruined earthwork and part of the first line of intrenchments were occupied by the Federals, then attacked the second line of the Confederates, but encountered a dreadful fire of artillery and musketry, and were driven back. Another assault was made, and was likewise repelled by the Confederates, who then charged the Federals and drove them to the entrenchments which they had held before the day's operations began. This defeat was officially admitted to have cost the Federals 5,640 men, including General Burnside himself slightly wounded, and General Bartlett taken prisoner. The negro troops, we are told, behaved very badly; and either the white soldiers or some of the principal officers apparently misconducted themselves; for a court of inquiry had been ordered to investigate the cause of the repulse. On the 2nd inst. the Federal dead were buried, a short truce having been made for that purpose. On the 31st ult. President Lincoln went to Fort Munroe, and there had an interview with General Grant. The precise purpose and result of that interview were of course unknown; but it was rumoured in New York on the 4th, 5th, and 6th inst.—although Petersburg advices of the 3rd, stated that "occasional shelling" was going on

between the hostile armies—that General Grant was withdrawing his forces, and moving on Washington. It was, moreover, reported that the Confederates were preparing to attack the Federal capital, or undertake an invasion of Pennsylvania and Maryland, on a great scale. They had re-entered Maryland "in force," and had occupied Hagerstown. A small body of their cavalry had burned the greater part of the town of Chambersburg, in Pennsylvania, because a required contribution was not paid, but had afterwards retreated; and they were likewise asserted to be "marching upon Cumberland and Pittsburg." It was "non-officially reported from Washington" that General Hood had again attacked General Sherman's position at Atlanta on the 27th ult. and had been repulsed with considerable loss; but there were also rumours unfavourable to the Federals, and a New York telegram of the 5th inst. says that "there is nothing official from General Sherman lately." Advices from New Orleans asserted "non-officially" that Admiral Farragut "successfully attacked" the defences of Mobile on the 27th ult.; but the contest was said to have continued on the 30th ult. Both the *City of Manchester* and the *Africa*, in which were the detectives sent after Muller, had arrived out. There is no intimation, however, of the arrival of the *Victoria*, in which he was a passenger.

INDIA, CHINA, AND AUSTRALIA.—The Overland Mail brings despatches from Calcutta to the 8th of July, Hong-Kong to the 29th June, and from Australia to the 25th of June. The Calcutta news possesses little general interest. Indigo prospect are poor, heavy and continued rains having done considerable damage to the crops in Bengal. In the North-West the demand for land is still increasing. There is an outcry for dock accommodation on the part of the mercantile community in Calcutta, and a report by Messrs. Brereton and Purdon, engineers, has been addressed to the provisional directors of the company formed for its construction upon the subject. The neighbourhood of Garden Reach is spoken of as the proposed site. It appears that the insults offered by the Khan of Bhootan to the British envoy at his court are not likely to pass unnoticed by the Indian Government. Active preparations are said to be going on in the arsenal, and an English officer has been despatched to the frontier to gather information respecting the country, the roads and the passes into Bhootan, and the sources from which the necessary supplies may be obtained for troops in certain contingencies. This looks as if we were about to have another little war on our hands in India. Worthy of note, as indicating the sentiments of the Ameer of Cabul towards our Indian rule, is the fact that some of the Sittana Hindoostanee fanatics who were lately engaged in bearding our power in the North-Western territory having applied to his Highness for employment in his service, they were met with a peremptory refusal, and ordered to quit the country without delay. In China and Japan political matters remained pretty much on the same footing. Apprehending, however, that the Taepings might recover their lost ground, and threaten the safety of Shanghai, General Brown, the Commander-in-Chief of the British forces in China, had left head-quarters at Hong-Kong for that port. The principal places held by the rebels are Woochow and Nanking, but both are closely invested by the Imperialists. In Japan the question of opening up the inland sea is still in suspense. A reinforcement of a battalion of English marines has arrived at Yokohama by her Majesty's ship *Conqueror*, and it is understood that Sir Rutherford Alcock is determined, when backed by a sufficient force, to re-open the inland sea to foreign shipping. In the Australian colonies there was nothing of importance going on; the country was suffering, as we are ourselves, for want of rain. Operations in the mining districts were pretty successful. In New Zealand, although there was a suspension of arms, it was believed to be only temporary.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

ROSE CROIX.—The J.W.'s pillar is not elevated during the working of the lodge.

F. W.—Your communication arrived too late for our last number, and it is now a day behind the fair.

ELIAS.—We have nothing to do with the party named, neither do we wish to have.

Z. Z.—We have seen the trash, and estimate it at its true value.